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Under Trump change, Cuba business partners can now be sued

By GISELA SALOMON and
MICHAEL WEISSENSTEIN

MIAMI (AP) — In 1958, José Ramón López's father owned Cuba's main airport, its national airline and three small hotels. Conchita Beltrán's family had about 2,160 acres (874 hectares) of sugar and tobacco fields. And the families of Mickael Behn and Javier García Bengochea had docks in Havana and Santiago de Cuba.

All properties were taken in Cuba's socialist revolution. The dispossessed families later moved to the United States and abandoned hope of compensation as Cuba and the U.S. severed relations and fought during decades of the Cold War. But on Thursday, Behn and García Bengochea filed what were believed to be

the first lawsuits against European and American companies doing business on confiscated properties in Cuba — thanks to the Trump administration's decision to activate a provision of the U.S. embargo on the island.

Known as Title III of the 1996 Helms-Burton Act, the section allows Americans, and Cubans who later became Americans, to sue almost any company deemed to be "trafficking" in property confiscated by Cuba's government. Every president since the law's passage has suspended Title III because of objections from U.S. allies doing business in Cuba and because of the potential effect on future negotiated settlements between the U.S. and Cuba.

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In this Sept. 1, 2014 file photo, people put their luggage in a private taxi as they arrive from the U.S. to the Jose Marti International Airport in Havana, Cuba.

Associated Press



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Reports of sexual assault in the military spike

By LOLITA C. BALDOR

Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Reports of military sexual assaults jumped by 13% last year, but an anonymous survey of service members released Thursday suggests the problem is vastly larger. The survey results found that more than 20,000 service members said they experienced some type of sexual assault, but only a third of those filed a formal report.

The survey number is about 37% higher than two years ago, when one was last done, fueling frustration within the department and outrage on Capitol Hill.

"I am tired of the statement I get over and over from the chain of command: 'We got this, madam, we got this.' You don't have it!" Sen. Kirsten Gillibrand, a New York Democrat, shouted during a Senate Armed Services Committee confirmation hearing Thursday for Army Gen. James McConville. "You're failing us." McConville has been nominated to be the next chief of staff of the Army, and



In this March 6, 2019, file photo, Sen. Kirsten Gillibrand, D-N.Y., the ranking member of the Senate Armed Services Subcommittee on Personnel, speaks during a hearing about prevention and response to sexual assault in the military, on Capitol Hill in Washington.

Associated Press

that service saw a spike of more than 18% in the number of sexual assault reports filed last year. The Marine Corps had the largest jump, at 23%, while the Navy saw a 7% increase and the Air Force was up by about 4%. The Pentagon releases a report every year on the number of sexual assaults reported by troops. But because sexual assault is a highly underreported crime, the department sends out an anonymous

survey every two years to get a clearer picture of the problem.

The increase in assaults has triggered another round of Pentagon programs to try to reduce misconduct.

Nate Galbreath, deputy director of the Pentagon's Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Office, told

reporters Thursday that the latest numbers are "disheartening and it personally makes me angry," but he said he's "not without hope."

The sharp increase in reported Marine assaults comes on the heels of two troubled years for the Corps. In 2017, the service was rocked by a massive online nude-photo sharing scandal, and later launched a large public campaign to raise awareness of inappropriate behavior and beef up enforcement. Nearly 60 service members eventually faced some type of punishment.

Gen. Robert Neller, commandant of the Marine Corps, said Thursday that his troops "cannot truly be loyal to our Nation without first being loyal to each other. All Marines must be involved in preventing and addressing sexual assault and harassment."

Col. Kathy Turner, an Army

spokeswoman, said leaders must enforce standards to ensure a healthy command climate and prevent sexual misconduct by soldiers.

The survey found that young and junior enlisted women between 17 and 20 were most likely to experience sexual assault. In the vast majority of the cases the alleged perpetrator was a military man, often near the same rank as the victim and usually someone she knows. The report also found that nearly two-thirds of all incidents involved alcohol use by the victim and/or the offender. Galbreath said the department has to reassess why prevention programs are not working as well with younger troops and adjust those efforts to better reach them. Programs that worked a few years ago, he said, are no longer effective.

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The studies also found that there are often more problems in military units that have poor command climates or low levels of unit cohesion.

Last year, when the Pentagon announced that assaults in 2017 had increased by 10% over 2016, then-Defense Secretary Jim Mattis called the problem a cancer in the ranks and ordered the Department to re-double its efforts to prevent and respond to sexual assaults. On Thursday, Acting Defense Secretary Patrick Shanahan called this year's increase unacceptable and directed the military to enact new programs to identify serial offenders and beef up scrutiny of new recruits to ensure they have the right character for military service.

"Sexual assault and sexual harassment are persistent challenges," Shanahan said in a memo to military service leaders. "We cannot shrink from facing the challenge head on. We

must, and will, do better." Galbreath said one change expected to begin later this summer will have the military begin comparing information on offenders from victims who file so-called "restricted" reports. Filing a restricted report allows victims to seek treatment but they avoid any criminal complaint or prosecution. Many victims choose that route to skirt any potential retribution or stigma of a public trial.

Under the new plan, Galbreath said the military would put information on alleged attackers into a database so repeat offenders can be identified. Galbreath said if officials find a possible repeat offender, they would go back to the victims to see if they might change their minds and agree to prosecute.

According to the survey, 21% of the women who said they reported a sexual assault believed that they suffered some type of retaliation aimed at stopping them from making a complaint. Separately,

133 service members filed retaliation complaints. Of those, two-thirds were in-

vestigated by department inspectors general and ultimately 13 received some

type of punishment, ranging from counseling to a court-martial. □



Acting Defense Secretary Patrick Shanahan listens, Wednesday May 1, 2019, during a House Appropriations subcommittee on budget hearing on Capitol Hill in Washington.

Associated Press



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In this Nov. 29, 2016 file photo, a cruise ship enters the port in Havana, Cuba.

Associated Press

CUBA

Continued from Front

The law contains exceptions for residential properties, properties worth less than \$50,000 and properties linked to travel to Cuba deemed legal under U.S. law.

Its activation, however, could generate dozens or

even hundreds of lawsuits, along with trade fights between the U.S. on one side and countries including Spain, France and Britain on the other.

Behn and Garcia Bengochea, who filed cases in federal court in Miami, are the heirs of families that owned ports which are now

being used to dock cruise ships that began traveling to Cuba in 2016 under President Barack Obama's detente with the island.

Behn's grandfather, American William C. Behn, was president of the company Havana Docks, which owned three docks in the capital that were confiscated in 1960. Mickael Behn, a television executive who lives between Miami and London, says he is suing Carnival Cruise Corporation for up to three times the current value of the docks, as permitted under the law.

Bengochea, a neurosurgeon who lives in northeast Florida, owns 80 percent of the shares of the confiscated Cuban company La Maritima, which operated the port of Santiago de Cuba. He is suing for up to \$20 million.

"We want to get justice,"

said Bob Martinez, the lawyer for both men. "This was a robbery and what we're trying to get is compensation for the illegal use of these properties."

But for George Fowler, an attorney who has advised Carnival on Cuban matters, the law provides an exception for companies that go to Cuba legally, like the cruise lines. For that reason, he said, the Helms-Burton law does not apply to them.

"I don't think the lawsuits are going to go very far," said Fowler, who also is vice-chairman of the Cuban-American National Foundation, a Cuban exile organization. "It is all about money," he said after explaining that Carnival agrees with him.

During the Obama administration, the cruise companies were issued licenses by the Treasury Department to carry American passengers to Cuba.

Other potential major targets include Spanish hotel chains Meliá and Iberostar, Pernod Ricard of France, and other U.S. cruise lines that dock at ports confiscated from U.S. residents.

Lawyers and potential plaintiffs say they expect only a trickle of lawsuits at first due to the expense and complexity of filing litigation under a law that is being put into effect for the first time and touches on issues of international trade and sovereignty.

Suing is also expensive, with initial filing fees of more than \$6,500 a case, and there is the difficulty and expense of proving ownership with old Cuban documents.

For its part, Cuba fears it's already lagging levels of foreign investment could be permanently crippled as a result of the activation of the provision. At a Cuban government-organized May Day parade

Wednesday in Havana, marchers carried signs and chanted slogans denouncing the Helms-Burton law.

The law "was an effort to tie the hands of any president to improve relations with Cuba," Carlos Fernández de Cossío, Cuba's director-general of U.S. affairs, told The Associated Press in Washington.

"No doubt that there will be a threatening effect that will inhibit some investors of going to Cuba.

We cannot ignore that that will occur," he said. "It will perhaps have an impact on the living standards, the living conditions, of common Cubans ... It will damage perhaps the relationship of the United States and Cuba more than it is today."

On Thursday, the European Union also said it could file a World Trade Organization lawsuit or levy its own sanctions against U.S. entities that sue under Title III.

"The EU sees the extraterritorial application of unilateral restrictive measures as violating international law, and will take all appropriate measures," the EU said in a statement.

Others, however, celebrated the first lawsuits.

Orlando Gutiérrez Boronat, from the exile group Cuban Democratic Directorate, said that the lawsuits have a clear message.

"Everyone who wants to invest in Cuba will have to go to federal court," he said after a press conference in front of the downtown court where the suits were filed.

Beltrán said her family had 860 acres (348 hectares) of sugar fields and 1,300 acres (526 hectares) of tobacco in western Pinar del Rio province. She has no idea if she will be able to sue a foreign corporation doing business related to her properties, but she is optimistic. □

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Secluded Baltimore mayor resigns amid scandal

BALTIMORE (AP) — Baltimore's mayor resigned under pressure Thursday amid a flurry of investigations into whether she arranged bulk sales of her self-published children's books to disguise hundreds of thousands of dollars in kickbacks.

Mayor Catherine Pugh's resignation came exactly a week after her City Hall offices, homes and multiple other locations were raided by FBI and IRS agents. She is the second mayor in less than a decade to step down because of scandal. She came to office contrasting her clean image with her main opponent, ex-mayor Sheila Dixon, who was forced to depart office in 2010 as part of a plea deal for misappropriating about \$500 in gift cards meant for needy families. "I am sorry for the harm that I have caused to the image of the city of Baltimore and the credibility of the office of the mayor," Pugh said in a written statement read by her lawyer, Steven Silverman.

A federal grand jury has been empaneled and state and local inquiries are also underway into the roughly \$800,000 Pugh made over the years in exchange for her "Healthy Holly" paperbacks about health and nutrition. She hasn't been charged with any crime. Since the book scandal erupted in late March, Pugh's fractured administration has lurched from one crisis to another and various aides have been fired or left City Hall.

Her resignation provides a measure of resolution after weeks of uncertainty and mounting pressure for her to step down. Maryland's

Republican governor and numerous Democrats had pressed for her resignation, saying she was no longer fit to lead Baltimore.

"This was the right decision, as it was clear the mayor could no longer lead effectively," Gov. Larry Hogan said in a statement Thursday afternoon. "Baltimore City can now begin to move forward."

Now that Pugh has resigned, acting Mayor Bernard "Jack" Young automatically becomes the permanent mayor and will not need to be sworn in. Young, a Democrat and longtime City Council member, is currently in Detroit for a conference about economic development and will return to Baltimore over the weekend. In a statement, Young thanked the thousands of city employees who came to work each day under uncertain circumstances for weeks.

"Although I understand that this ordeal has caused real pain for many Baltimoreans, I promise that we will emerge from it more committed than ever to building a stronger Baltimore," he said.

Young declined to comment further when approached by Associated Press reporters at the Detroit conference.

Citing deteriorating health following a bout of pneumonia, Pugh took a paid leave on April 1 and hasn't been seen in public since. The 69-year-old abruptly retreated to her home the same day that Hogan asked the state prosecutor to investigate public corruption accusations against her.

In recent days, Silverman had repeatedly gone in and out of Pugh's city home to discuss "options" with her while also asserting that she was so fragile physically and mentally that she was unable to make "major decisions." Last week, Silverman had told reporters that she might be "lucid" enough to make a decision this week.

At issue for multiple investigators are questionable financial arrangements she negotiated over years selling her hard-to-find "Healthy Holly" books. The books were meant to be provided to schools and day care centers, but it's unclear where tens of thousands of copies ended up. Hogan has called the accusations against Pugh "deeply disturbing," and the state's accountant described the book-selling arrangements as "brazen,



In this June 8, 2018 file photo, Baltimore Mayor Catherine Pugh addresses a gathering during the annual meeting of the U.S. Conference of Mayors in Boston.

Associated Press

cartoonish corruption." The City Council called for Pugh's immediate resignation, as did numerous state lawmakers and an influential business group, among others.

The scandal erupted when it came to light that the University of Maryland Medical System, one of the state's largest private employers, paid Pugh \$500,000 for 100,000 copies of her children's books. There was no contract behind the deal and the hospital network described some of the pur-

chases as "grants" in federal filings.

Others then came forward, including Maryland financier J.P. Grant. He acknowledged writing a roughly \$100,000 check to buy Pugh's "Health Holly" books but insisted he expected nothing in return.

At a rambling news conference days before retreating from public view, Pugh described her book deal worth \$500,000 with the university-based health care system as a "regrettable mistake." □

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AT THE OSTRICH FARM

U.S. searches of phones, laptops at airports rising, suit says

By DEB RIECHMANN

WASHINGTON (AP) — U.S. government searches of travelers' cellphones and laptops at airports and border crossings nearly quadrupled since 2015 and were being done for reasons beyond customs and immigration enforcement, according to papers filed Tuesday in a federal lawsuit that claims scouring the electronic devices without a warrant is unconstitutional.

The government has vigorously defended the searches, which rose to 33,295 in fiscal 2018, as a critical tool to protect America. But the newly filed documents claim the scope of the warrantless searches has expanded to assist in enforcement of tax, bankruptcy, environmental and consumer protection laws, gather intelligence and advance criminal investigations.

Agents with U.S. Customs and Border Protection and U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement consider requests from other government agencies in determining whether to search travelers' electronic devices, the court papers said. They added that agents are searching the electronic devices of not only targeted individuals but their associates, friends and relatives.

The new information about the searches was included in a motion the Electronic Frontier Foundation and the American Civil Liberties Union filed Tuesday in U.S. District Court in Massachusetts.

"The evidence we have



In this March 26, 2019, file photo, an airline passenger walk in the arrivals terminal at Dulles International Airport in Dulles, Va.

Associated Press

presented the court shows that the scope of ICE and CBP border searches is unconstitutionally broad," said Adam Schwartz, senior staff attorney for the EFF, based in San Francisco.

"ICE and CBP policies and practices allow unfettered, warrantless searches of travelers' digital devices and empower officers to dodge the Fourth Amendment when rifling through highly personal information contained on laptops and phones," he said.

The Department of Homeland Security did not respond to a request for comment. Both ICE and CBP said they did not comment on pending litigation. When the suit was filed against the government in 2017, DHS officials said U.S. citizens and everyone else are subject to examination

and search by customs officials, unless exempted by diplomatic status. The department has contended that no court has concluded that border searches of electronic devices require a warrant. Searches, some random, have uncovered evidence of human trafficking, terrorism, child pornography, visa fraud, export control breaches and intellectual property rights violations, according to the department.

The original case was filed on behalf of 10 American citizens and a lawful permanent resident from seven states — including two journalists, a NASA engineer and a former Air Force captain — who alleged the searches violated their constitutional rights. They asked the court to rule that the government must have

a warrant based on probable cause before searching electronic devices at U.S. ports of entry.

The plaintiffs also are demanding the government expunge from investigatory databases information obtained in past searches. ICE and CBP share information taken from travelers' electronic devices with other agencies and there is control to prevent them from impermissibly retaining it, they argue.

A year ago, U.S. District Judge Denise Casper in Boston rejected the government's request to dismiss the lawsuit, allowing the case to move forward. The ACLU and the foundation began gathering documents and deposition testimony. Based on the new information, they filed a motion Tuesday asking the

judge to rule in their favor without a trial. "Travelers' devices contain an extraordinary amount of highly personal information that the government can easily search, retain, and share," it argues.

"This new evidence reveals that the government agencies are using the pretext of the border to make an end run around the First and Fourth Amendments," said ACLU attorney Esha Bhandari. "The border is not a lawless place. ICE and CBP are not exempt from the Constitution and the information on our electronic devices is not devoid of Fourth Amendment protections. We are asking the court to stop these unlawful searches and require the government to get a warrant."

The court documents claim that the agencies also assert the authority to search electronic devices when the subject of interest is someone other than the traveler, such as the business partner of someone under investigation. Both agencies also allow officers to retain information from travelers' electronic devices and share it with other government entities, including state, local and foreign law enforcement agencies, the court papers claim.

The plaintiffs also say that travelers who have had their electronic devices searched at the border run increased odds of being subject to future device searches as they can be flagged in government databases for additional scrutiny on that basis. □

Cocaine deaths up in U.S., and opioids are a big part of it

By MIKE STOBBE

NEW YORK (AP) — Cocaine deaths have been rising in the U.S., health officials said Thursday in their latest report on the nation's deadliest drug overdose epidemic.

After several years of decline, overdose deaths involving cocaine began rising around 2012. And they jumped by more than a

third between 2016 and 2017.

The increase at least partly reflects trends in deaths from heroin, fentanyl and other opioid drugs. Many overdose deaths involve several different drugs. The CDC researchers found that nearly three-quarters of the deaths involving cocaine in 2017 were among people who had also taken

opioids.

But deaths involving cocaine alone also increased, said Lawrence Scholl of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, one of the study's authors.

The researchers did not look at why cocaine deaths have been increasing.

Health officials say about 70,000 Americans died of drug overdoses in 2017.

Nearly 48,000 involved at least one type of opioid. About 28,000 deaths involved fentanyl or some other kind of synthetic opioid, 15,500 involved heroin, and 14,500 involved prescription opioid painkillers. Just under 14,000 involved cocaine, according to the new report.

Ohio was the state with highest cocaine death

rate, but the largest relative increases were seen in Wisconsin and Maryland.

The new report goes through 2017, the last year for which complete statistics are available.

Some preliminary data from CDC suggests that deaths from cocaine continued to rise early in 2018 but may have leveled off last summer. □

Maine becomes 1st state to ban single-use foam containers

By MARINA VILLENEUVE
Associated Press

AUGUSTA, Maine (AP) — Maine has banned single-use food and drink containers made from polystyrene foam, commonly known as Styrofoam, becoming the first state to do so.

Democratic Gov. Janet Mills signed the bill, which takes effect in 2021, into law Tuesday.

Environmental groups have sought such bans amid rising public awareness of throwaway plastic that accumulates in the oceans, but the Natural Resources Council of Maine said that Maine is the first state to enact a ban.

Similar legislation passed Maryland's Legislature in April, but it's unclear whether that state's Republican governor, Larry Hogan, will sign it.

Oregon, Vermont and Connecticut are also considering banning the containers, and dozens of communities from Berkeley, California, to New York City have already passed their own bans, some of which date back to the late 1980s. Several companies such as Dunkin' and McDonald's have also pledged to or have already eliminated foam cups.

In December, European Union officials agreed to ban some single-use plastics, such as polystyrene food and beverage containers, in an effort to curb marine pollution.

"With the threats posed by plastic pollution becoming more apparent, costly, and even deadly to wildlife, we need to be doing everything possible to limit our use and better manage our single-use plastics — starting with eliminating the use of unnecessary forms like plastic foam," said Sarah Lakeman, Sustainable Maine director at the Natural Resources Council of Maine.

Mills called it an "important step forward in protecting our environment." The governor said it creates consistency for businesses while

providing time to adjust.

The law will prohibit "covered establishments" — like restaurants and grocery stores — from using polystyrene containers. Hospitals, seafood shippers and state-funded meals-on-wheels programs will be exempt.

Maine has banned foam food containers at state facilities and functions since 1993. Some communities in the state had also already banned polystyrene.

The legislation faced strong opposition from the plastics industry, food service container manufacturers and Maine business and tourism groups, which argued polystyrene is economical and a better than other materials at keeping food from spoiling.

Such industry groups argue Maine's new law doesn't mean consumers will stop littering and doesn't ensure alternatives will be better for the environment.

"It is our sincere hope that Gov. Mills and the Maine Legislature will reconsider this legislation next year after they see how it will negatively impact the environment and local businesses and consumers," said Omar Terrie, a director in the American Chemistry Council's plastics division.

The plastics industry also says they're taking voluntary steps to make plastic packaging reusable, recyclable or recoverable by 2030. The industry in January committed to spending \$1.5 billion over five years to end plastic waste through a new nonprofit, The Alliance to End Plastic Waste, according to American Chemistry Council lobbyist Margaret Gorman.

"All packaging leaves an environmental footprint regardless of the material type," Gorman told Maine lawmakers in written testimony.

Maine State Chamber of Commerce lobbyist Ben Gilman said the bill would raise costs for small businesses, in particular, while sending a "chilling mes-

sage" to companies in the state that manufacture food service containers.

"These types of issues are better dealt with on a regional or national basis due to unbalanced cost impact it will have on Maine businesses," he said in written testimony to lawmakers. □



A coffee cup made from polystyrene foam, commonly known as Styrofoam, lies on the side of a road, Wednesday, May 1, 2019, in Augusta, Maine.

Associated Press

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UK climate panel sets big goals: less meat, electric cars

By DANICA KIRKA

LONDON (AP) — The U.K. should eliminate almost all greenhouse gas emissions by 2050 by rapidly adopting policies that will change everything from the way people heat their homes to what they eat, an independent committee that advises the British government on climate change recommended Thursday.

A report from the Committee on Climate Change said the government must adopt ambitious goals if it wants to be a leader in the fight against global warming and limit the impact of climate change.

While Britain has laid the groundwork to achieve net-zero emissions of greenhouse gases, existing plans "must be urgently strengthened" because "current policy is not enough even for existing targets," the committee said.

The panel says the government should reduce the demand for energy overall, increase the electrification of the British economy, develop hydrogen fuel technology, plant more trees



In this Friday, April 12, 2019 file photo, climate change demonstrators hold banners in front of the Winston Churchill Statue during a protest near Parliament in London.

Associated Press

and set ambitious targets for carbon capture and storage.

It also calls for reduced consumption of meat and dairy products, changes in how farmers operate and a requirement for electric vehicles to be the only option by 2035.

"We can all see that the

climate is changing and it needs a serious response," committee chairman John Gummer said. "The government should accept the recommendations and set about making the changes needed to deliver them without delay."

Environmental groups welcomed the findings, but the

proposals could be seen as daunting to some businesses and the government.

Prime Minister Theresa May is under pressure to act more boldly on climate change after a visit by teenage climate activist Greta Thunberg and 10 days of protests that shut down traffic in central

London and put the issue squarely on Britain's political agenda.

Parliament voted Wednesday for a non-binding motion from the main opposition Labour Party urging Britain to declare a "climate emergency."

Some activists have called for Britain to set a 2025 target for net-zero emissions.

The committee said it considered earlier net-zero target dates, but 2050 was the most credible goal.

"An earlier date has been proposed by some groups and might send a stronger signal internationally to those considering increasing their own ambition, but only if it's viewed as credible," the panel said.

Environmentalists at the National Trust, the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds, the WWF and the Women's Institute and Woodland Trust said the panel's work showed that reaching net-zero emissions is both necessary and feasible. The government said it would respond to the recommendations "in due course." □



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Anti-migrant politicians bond at razor wire fence in Hungary



In this handout photo provided by the Hungarian Prime Minister's Press Office shows Hungarian Prime Minister Viktor Orban, Italian Interior Minister Matteo Salvini, Hungarian Interior Minister Sandor Pinter during their visit at the Hungarian-Serbian border near Roszke, 180 kms southeast of Budapest, Hungary, Thursday, May 2, 2019.

Associated Press

By PABLO GORONDI

BUDAPEST, Hungary (AP) — Two of Europe's most outspoken critics of recent mass migration toured razor-wire fences at Hungary's southern border Thursday while criticizing the

European Union's handling of the influx as countries prepare for EU parliament elections.

Italian Interior Minister Matteo Salvini visited Hungary for talks with Prime Minister Viktor Orban focused

mainly on immigration. Orban met Salvini at the border with Serbia where he had the fences built in 2015 to keep out asylum-seekers hoping to reach Europe.

The Hungarian leader reiterated his grievance that Hungary spent over 1 billion euros (\$1.1 billion) on the fence without receiving money from the EU in return.

He called for migration issues to be taken away from the EU's executive branch and given to a council of interior ministers from the 26 countries in Europe's visa-free Schengen travel zone. "Europe's citizens will do well if they listen not to President Macron, but to Hungary and Italy on the issue of border defense," Orban said, referring to the staunchly pro-EU leader of France. □

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Estonia minister calls president 'emotionally heated woman'

By JARI TANNER

Associated Press

HELSINKI (AP) — The new interior minister of Estonia on Thursday called the country's first female president an "emotionally heated woman" for walking out during the swearing-in of a Cabinet minister accused of domestic violence.

Mart Helme made the sexist remark at a news conference where he also accused Estonian news outlets of applying a double standard in covering abuse allegations against the now-former minister from his far-right party.

President Kersti Kaljulaid, the first woman to serve as the Baltic country's head of state, left a Monday swearing-in ceremony for a new three-party government when it was time for the appointee at issue to take the oath of office.

Marti Kuusik was sworn in as technology and foreign trade minister along with the rest of Prime Minister Juri Ratas' Cabinet after news reports featured the domestic violence allegations.

Police opened an investigation to review the allegations hours later. Kuusik, a member of Helme's Estonian Conservative People's Party, resigned the next day, saying the probe was based on "slander" and "a terrifying media attack" against him.

Helme called the reporting "an unconstitutional witch hunt." He also made clear his dim view of the president's decision to walk out during the ceremony and return to her seat when it was the next minister's turn. "An emotionally heated

woman can afford to do that," Helme told reporters. "But Kersti Kaljulaid is not simply a woman, but the president of the republic." "She reads one article, becomes so emotionally upset as a woman that she makes a decision right away," he added.

Kaljulaid, who has been president since October 2016, did not respond Thursday to Helme's comments. She attended the Cabinet ceremony wearing a sweater printed with "Sona on vaba," which is Estonian for "Speech is free."

Helme and his son, newly appointed Finance Minister Martin Helme, have accused the news media before of displaying a negative bias toward the Estonian Conservative People's Party, or EKRE.

The party has advocated abolishing legal recognition for same-sex civil unions, demanded changes to the abortion law and fiercely opposed European Union quotas for taking in asylum-seekers.

Photographs of the two flashing the OK hand sign at Monday's swearing-in ceremony have received attention from other politicians. The use of the familiar gesture by some extreme-right activists and white supremacists has given it an alternative meaning.

Mart Helme hasn't responded to questions about his and his son's hand motions. EKRE entered Estonia's parliament in 2015. It emerged from the country's March 3 election with 17.8% of the vote to become the third-largest party in the national legislature. A party member is the current parlia-

ment speaker.

The party's role in governing expanded Thursday with Mart Helme's appointment as first deputy prime minister, a position that includes leading the Cabinet during the prime minister's absence. □



In this Monday, March 4, 2019 file photo, Chairman of the Estonian Conservative People's Party (EKRE) Mart Helme speaks at the headquarters after parliamentary elections in Tallinn, Estonia.

Associated Press

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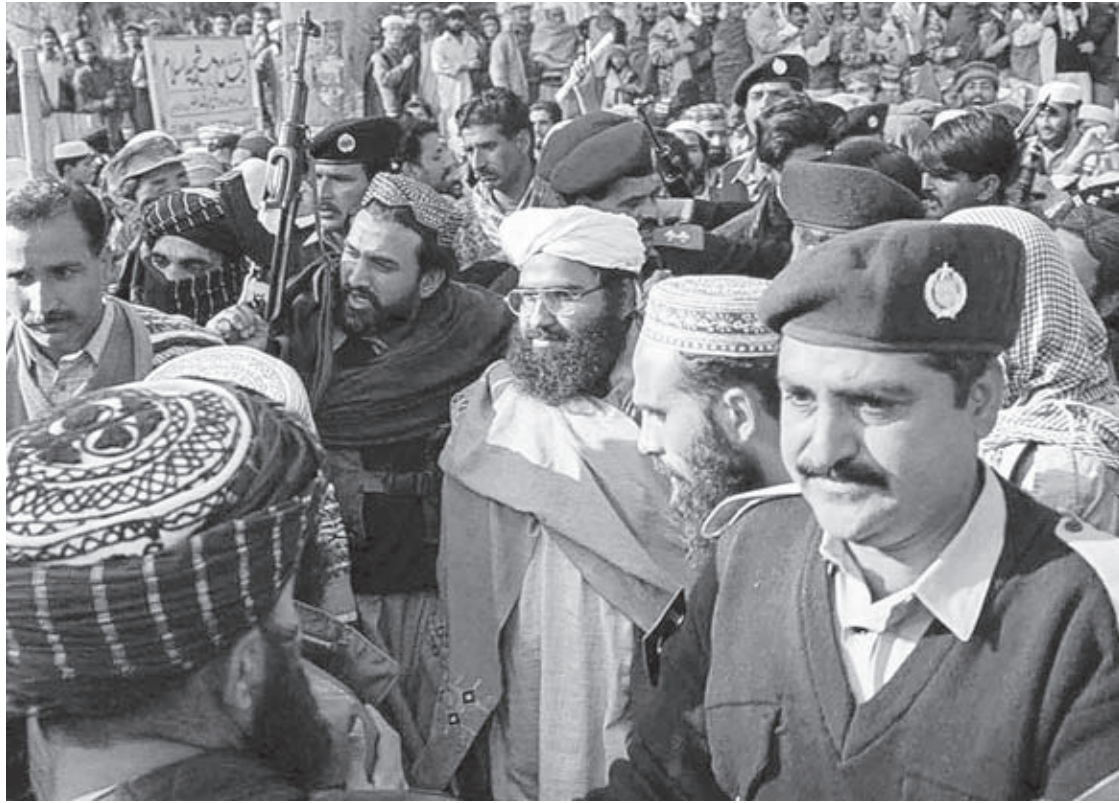
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UN adds leader of outlawed Pakistan group to sanctions list

By **MUNIR AHMED**
ASHOK SHARMA
Associated Press

ISLAMABAD (AP) — In a major diplomatic win for India, the United Nations added the leader of an outlawed Pakistani militant group to its sanctions blacklist Wednesday after the group claimed responsibility for a February suicide attack in disputed Kashmir that killed 40 Indian soldiers. Sanctions against Masood Azhar were confirmed by Pakistani Foreign Ministry spokesman Mohammad Faisal at a news conference in Islamabad. Azhar's addition to the Security Council's Islamic State and al-Qaida blacklist includes a travel ban and freeze on his assets as well as an arms embargo.

The development came less than three months after Azhar's Jaish-e-Mohammed group claimed responsibility for the Feb. 14 attack in Kashmir, which is split between the two countries and claimed by both in its entirety. The



In this Jan. 27, 2000 file photo, Masood Azhar, center, wearing glasses and white turban, leader of Jaish-e-Mohammad arrives in Islamabad, Pakistan.

Associated Press

clashes brought the two nuclear rivals to the brink of war.

India had intensified its lobbying to have Azhar blacklisted after the killing of its soldiers and New

Delhi quickly welcomed the Security Council decision. Sanctions against Azhar had been delayed because Security Council member China had blocked them on three

previous occasions. But the council went ahead after China no longer objected. Azhar was blacklisted for his leadership of the al-Qaida-linked Jaish-e-Mohammed. The official listing by the U.N.

sanctions committee said the 50-year-old Azhar was associated with al-Qaida by supporting its activities, including by supplying arms and recruiting members, and for financially supporting Jaish-e-Mohammed.

Azhar was released from prison in India in 1999 in exchange for 155 passengers on an Indian Airlines flight hijacked to Kandahar, Afghanistan.

As a group, Jaish-e-Mohammed had been put on the sanctions blacklist in 2001 for its ties to al-Qaida, Osama bin Laden and the Taliban. The U.N. listing noted that 2008 recruitment posters for Jaish-e-Mohammed "contained a call from Azhar for volunteers to join the fight in Afghanistan against Western forces."

Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi said on Twitter that "today is a day that would make every Indian proud!"

I thank the global community and all those who believe in humanitarian values for their support." □

Turkish man dies, upping toll from Christchurch attack to 51

By **NICK PERRY**

WELLINGTON, New Zealand (AP) — The death toll from the Christchurch mosque attacks has risen to 51 after a Turkish man who had been hospitalized since a gunman opened fire on worshippers seven weeks ago died overnight, authorities in New Zealand

and Turkey confirmed.

New Zealand Prime Minister Jacinda Ardern said Friday the sad news would be felt across both countries.

"This man has been in intensive care since the attack," Ardern said in a statement. "We have all been hoping for the best, however he has now succumbed

to the injuries sustained in the shooting at the Al Noor mosque."

Relations between Turkey and New Zealand have been strained since the March 15 attack after Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan showed clips of a livestream video taken by the gunman at election

have banned the video, and anybody caught sharing it in New Zealand can face up to 14 years in prison.

New Zealand's Foreign Minister Winston Peters traveled to Turkey a week after the attacks to try to smooth relations. He spoke at an emergency session of the

combat prejudice against Muslims in the wake of the attacks.

On Thursday, Turkey's Foreign Minister Mevlut Cavusoglu said on Twitter: "Unfortunately, we have lost our citizen Zekeriya Tuyan who was seriously wounded in the treacherous terrorist attack in Christchurch, New Zealand."

The state-run Anadolu Agency said the father of two was wounded in the back and the leg and died after undergoing surgery. New Zealand police said Tuyan was 46. He was one of three Turkish citizens wounded in the attack.

Brenton Tarrant, a 28-year-old Australian white supremacist, has been charged with 50 counts of murder and 39 counts of attempted murder in the attacks, although those charges could be amended to reflect the increased death toll. He is next due in court on June 14. □

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In this Saturday, March 23, 2019 file photo, Worshippers prepare to enter the Al Noor mosque following last week's mass shooting in Christchurch, New Zealand.

Associated Press

campaigns to denounce hatred against Islam. New Zealand authorities

Organization of Islamic Cooperation's executive committee called by Turkey to



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India prepares for 'extremely severe' Bay of Bengal cyclone

Associated Press

NEW DELHI (AP) — Hundreds of thousands of people were evacuated along India's eastern coast on Thursday as authorities braced for a cyclone moving through the Bay of Bengal that was forecast to bring extremely severe wind and rain.

The India Meteorological Department in New Delhi said Cyclone Fani was expected to make landfall on Friday with gale-force winds of up to 200 kilometers (124 miles) per hour likely starting Thursday night. It warned of "extremely heavy falls" over parts of the state of Odisha and its southern neighbor Andhra Pradesh.

India's National Disaster Management Authority forecast "high to phenomenal" sea conditions for most of the Indian states along the Bay of Bengal. Fisher-



An Indian fisherman runs between the docked fishing boats amid strong winds at Chandrabhaga beach in Puri district of eastern Odisha state, India, Thursday, May 2, 2019.

Associated Press

men were advised not to venture into deep waters. A 1.5-meter (4.9-foot) storm

surge was expected to inundate low-lying areas. Fearing that Fani could

be the worst storm since 1999, when a cyclone killed around 10,000 people and

devastated large parts of Odisha, Indian officials put the navy, air force, army and coast guard on high alert, the Press Trust of India news agency reported.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi met with Cabinet ministers and weather and disaster-response officials for a briefing on the measures being taken.

The Meteorological Department projected "total destruction" of thatched-roof huts, flooding of farmland and orchards, and the uprooting of telephone poles. Odisha's special relief commissioner, Bishnupada Sethi, said that preparations for Fani included the country's largest evacuation operation, of around 880,000 people. More than 800 shelters were opened and around 100,000 dry food packets were ready to be airdropped. □

Widow, daughter of Korean Air chairman appear at trial

By KIM TONG-HYUNG

Associated Press

SEOUL, South Korea (AP) — The widow and daughter of Korean Air Chairman Cho Yang-ho appeared in a South Korean court on Thursday over charges they unlawfully hired housekeepers from the Philippines. The case extends the legal saga of Korean Air's founding family following the funeral of Cho, who died at 70 due to illness in Los Angeles last month, weeks after shareholders voted to remove him from the company's board over the scandals surrounding

his family.

Lee Myung-hee and her daughter, Cho Hyun-ah, refused to answer reporters' questions following their appearance at the Seoul Central District Court.

Prosecutors charged Lee and Cho Hyun-ah in December, saying they unlawfully recruited and hired 11 housekeepers from the Philippines by documenting them as Korean Air trainees from 2013 to early last year. Under South Korean law, foreigners must obtain visas given to marriage migrants or people of Korean heritage to work

as housekeepers. Prosecutors are seeking a 15 million won (\$12,900) fine for Cho Hyun-ah, who reportedly admitted to wrongdoing. Lee reportedly said she did not know that the Filipino women were hired illegally. Cho Hyun-ah, then a company executive, gained notoriety in 2014 after she ordered a Korean Air passenger plane to return to a terminal at John F. Kennedy International Airport in New York because she was angry that the crew served her macadamia nuts in a bag instead of on a plate. □



Former Korean Air executive Cho Hyun-ah, center, daughter of late Korean Air President Cho Yang-ho, leaves the Seoul Central District Court in Seoul, Thursday, May 2, 2019.

Associated Press

Brazil's Bolsonaro wants police in schools, discipline code

By DIANE JEANTET
ERALDO PERES

Associated Press

BRASILIA, Brazil (AP) —

When students at Ceilandia state school No. 7 in Brazil's capital came back from their break in February, they were met by two dozen uniformed police officers in a place they barely recognized anymore.

Guns in their holsters, the officers ordered students to form rows in the schoolyard. The students were given white T-shirts pending the arrival of their new uniforms. From now on, hair would have to be kept short for boys and tied at the back for girls. No more shorts, caps, brightly colored nail varnish, earrings or any distinctive pieces of clothing. Students arriving late wouldn't be let in.

"Sometimes we feel intimidated," said Michael Pereira da Silva, 17, who was against the decision to hire police to instill military-like discipline in the school. "Just going out into the hall, we are obligated to bow our heads or say hello to police officers."

Although experiments began in previous years, the quasi-military approach is one of the most visible educational efforts being championed under new President Jair Bolsonaro, a far-right former army captain who campaigned on promises to improve Brazilian schools, which are widely recognized as a problem. A 2015 study by the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development ranked educational performance in Brazil as 63rd out of 72 countries and regions.

Schools now being co-run by police are modeled on Brazil's exclusive military colleges, which tend to perform better than most public schools — a fact that makes many parents eager to see similarly rigid discipline.

Under the model, teaching remains in the hands of the Education Ministry, while police officers oversee discipline and enforce a new code of conduct. Implementation of the pilot



In this March 28, 2019 photo, a Military Police officer oversees students as they form up to sing the national anthem and raise the flag at the Ceilandia state school No. 7 in Brasilia, Brazil.

Associated Press

program in a school must be approved by a majority of parents, teachers and school staff in a referendum.

The Ceilandia school is one of four in Brasilia that voted to take part. Officials in Brazil's capital hope to add 36 more schools by the end of the year and reach a total of 200 by 2022. Bolsonaro's administration is pushing similar expansions nationwide, though it has yet to say how many it plans to convert across the country. Some states have been exploring the model since the early 2000s, but a large expansion worries many education experts and teachers' unions, who say such schools can become exclusionary and go against the concept of a free, open-to-all public schooling system.

They argue that these schools have managed to improve results because problematic students are quietly replaced by better-performing ones, often from wealthier backgrounds. Another red flag for critics is the introduction of guns in schools, particularly in the nation that leads the world in total homicides each year, the majority from firearms.

"Increased gun access and possession are not associ-

ated with protection from violence," said Robert Mughah, research director at the Brazilian think tank Igarape.

The expansion is a flagship measure of the Bolsonaro administration although the Education Ministry says it has no data on how many such schools existed or studies on long-term benefits of the model.

Besides putting police in more schools, Bolsonaro's administration has been pushing for other changes in public education, accusing it of being filled with "Marxist ideology." The Education Ministry has talked of revising history textbooks to refer to Brazil's 1964-1985 dictatorship as a "democratic regime of force" and of excising references to feminism, homosexuality and violence against women. Most recently, Bolsonaro said public funding for sociology and philosophy could be eliminated.

In recent years, some schools taken over by the police have garnered headlines when prosecutors have had to intervene after officers began charging monthly fees to parents, imposed expensive uniforms or sought to set aside half of the school's places for children of police officers.

In 2016, the head of education for police in the state of Goias revised the school system's internal regulation that normalized "expulsions" and "forced transfers" of students. The move followed a recommendation from state prosecutors who argued that expulsions from public schools must remain a last recourse.

"It's not for everyone, that's for sure," said Mauro Oliveira, deputy-secretary at the Brasilia state education ministry. Only a small number of students have been turned away from their schools since police arrived, he said, arguing the ends justify the means.

The administration says it is targeting violent and low-performing schools or those in at-risk areas, where drug trafficking takes place or paramilitary groups operate.

"We're not talking about normal schools," Oliveira said. He cited cases of students and teachers not being able to go to school because they were bullied or threatened. "Is this not exclusion as well?"

According to the head officer in Ceilandia state school No. 7, Edney Freire, the duties of police officers, called "monitors," include making sure students don't fight.

"If for instance there is any kind of friction between students, the monitor is going to go talk with the students, call the parents to solve the problem," he said.

It doesn't always work out in such calm fashion. A video posted this month on the internet news portal G1 shows police officers intervening in a fight in the school's gymnasium. Footage shows an officer body-slammng a student to the ground.

In Ceilandia, a crowded working-class neighborhood on the outskirts of Brazil's capital, violence against teachers was not so much the problem. But drug traffickers operated unfettered around the school and vagabonds were regularly seen drinking and using drugs in the area.

When the news came out that the school would enter in a partnership with the police, many parents sought to sign up their kids. Some arrived two days before the school opened, camping outside to make sure to get a spot for their child when the doors opened.

Students must line up in the school yard daily, heels together, arms straight along their bodies, heads looking straight forward toward the school's Brazilian flag.

"We must prepare our future starting today," Freire, the head officer, told students lining up on a recent day.

During his speech, police officers walked down the rows, checking students' posture and writing down the names of those breaking any rule.

The school's director, Adriana De Barros, said that in just two months discipline has improved. Petty crime has also gone down, Freire said.

Adriana da Silva, the parent of 17-year-old student Vitor, said it was "amazing" that it was April and she had not been called in by the school to discuss the teen's conduct even once. "He used to get in trouble. Now he wants to become a military man," da Silva said. □

LOCAL

Send us Your Home Greetings Video

ORANJESTAD – Since a while Aruba Today has a column called Aruba To Me. Readers are invited to send their favorite vacation picture along with a text starting with “Aruba to me is ...”. The column grew in popularity making the editorial department happy seeing this interaction with our readers realized.

It is wonderful to share the moments of joy of our readers who are vacationing here, but we can also imagine that there are people home who stayed behind and who are being missed. Aruba Today would like to give the opportunity to you as an appreciated reader to send a live greeting to your beloved ones that stayed behind. It can be your parent, child, sister, brother, neighbor who takes care of the cat, friends ... name it.

What Do You Do

The only thing you need to do is record a short (maximum 1 minute) video with a greeting to home from Aruba and send it to email news@arubatoday.com. Also please write your name and where you are from as well as how long you will be staying in Aruba. We will post your video on the Facebook page of Aruba Today!

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ARUBA JEWISH COMMUNITY RESPONDS TO POWAY CHABAD HOUSE SHOOTING

Morning of Unity, Solidarity and Prayer



NOORD — In the wake of the horrific Poway Chabad House shooting on the last day of Passover that left one dead and three injured, Chabad of Aruba will host a Service of Unity, Solidarity and Prayer at Chabad on Saturday May 4th at 11am.

"Our hearts are shattered by the cold-blooded attack on our brothers and sisters—Jews of all walks of life gathered at Chabad-Lubavitch of Poway in celebration and prayer to the Almighty on Shabbat and the final day of Passover," said Rabbi Ahron Blasberg, direction to Chabad Aruba. "We mourn the holy

soul of Lori Gilbert-Kaye, and we pray for the healing of all the injured."

The rabbi will share words of prayer, comfort, and healing. In addition, a call to action will be made.

"With the passing of Lori Kaye, the world became darker. We can only respond to darkness by adding in light," said Blasberg. "That's why we're asking that this Shabbat, go to your Chabad or local synagogue. Bring a friend and encourage others to #ShareShabbat."

Chabad-Lubavitch encourages #ShareShabbat, Encouraging Synagogue Attendance in Response to the Shooting.

Travel Tips

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2. For all US-bound departures, check-in three hours before your scheduled departure time.
3. For all US-bound flights, after check-in, leave building through the exit on the left side of building; follow the signs and head towards local immigrations, main security screening, shopping area and the departure gates. Aruba Airport provides full US Pre-Clearance service.
4. For all Non US departures, check-in may vary between airlines and destinations; always consult your airline for more information. Being at the airport 3 hours before your departure flight is always safe.
5. For all Non US flights, after check-in, leave building through the exit on the right side of building; follow the signs and head towards Local immigrations, main security screening, shopping area and the departure gates.
6. If traveling with a carry-on, there are restrictions on liquids, gels and aerosols you can carry in your carry-on luggage. Always check with your airline on limitations.
7. Always check the weight limit of your baggage; excess weight may result in penalty fees.
8. Always label your bags and suitcases with your name, address and phone number.
9. Always leave all carry-on items unlocked while passing through screening points to not cause delays if these need to be inspected.
10. Avoid wearing big belt buckles, clothing with metal buttons, lots of jewelry etc. when traveling. If you have these on, remove all metal items and place these in a tray for screening. It is advisable to put all metal items in your carry-on luggage until you clear security. This will help speed up the process.
11. Remove shoes at checkpoint and place in tray for x-ray machine screening.
12. All electronic items should be placed in tray outside their case for x-ray screening.
13. Avoid packing foods and beverages in your check-in baggage. When traveling to the US, you have to comply with the rules and regulations of the U.S. Department of Agriculture. More information <https://www.usda.gov/>.
14. If traveling with medication, please pack these in your carry-on luggage in their original packaging.
15. If you medical documentation, present this to the security checkpoint screener to inform them. The documentation is not required and will not exempt you from the screening process.
16. Take note of inadmissible items such as sharp objects, sporting goods, guns and firearms, martial arts and self-defense items, tools, explosive materials, flammable items, disabling chemicals and other items when traveling. More information available on www.airportaruba.com.

ב"ה

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-RABBI YISROEL GOLDSTEIN, CHABAD POWAY

What: A morning of Unity, Solidarity and Prayer in response to the Poway Chabad House shooting.

When: Saturday, May 4, 11am

Where: Chabad

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For more information on the Poway Shabbat Initiative, visit JewishAruba.com/ShareShabbat. □

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The Aruba Tourism Authority honor loyal visitors on the island

PALM BEACH —Recently, Kimberley Richardson of the Aruba Tourism Authority had the great pleasure to honor Aruba's loyal and friendly visitors as Emerald Ambassador. The Emerald Ambassador certificate is presented to guests who visit Aruba 35 years and more consecutively.

The honorees were Paul and Virginia Dunne together with Richard and Barbara Vasallo, all from USA! It was a very special day because honoring guests who have been coming to Aruba for more than 35 years is incredibly rare!

These lovely people stated that they love the island very much, especially for its year-round sunny weather, nice sandy beaches, delicious variety of foods, and Aruba's warm and friendly people.

Ms. Richardson together with the representatives of the Aruba Beach Club presented the certificates to the honorees, and also handed over some presents and thanked them for choosing Aruba as their favorite vacation destination and as their home away from home. □



Economic growth continues but increasing risks

ORANJESTAD—Today the Centrale Bank van Aruba (CBA) publishes the State of the Economy of the first three quarters of 2018. This publication provides a synopsis of the local and international economic developments of this period. The domestic highlights are presented below, including a summary of main economic indicators.

In the first nine months of 2018, Aruba's economy continued to perform better than in 2017. The tourism sector did well in the first nine months of 2018. The number of stay-over visitors grew by 1.5 percent, while visitor nights recorded a similar result (+1.6 percent). As in previous quarters, the U.S. market was the key driver for this favorable outcome. The hotel sector reported a solid performance in the first nine months of 2018. While average room occupancy faced a minor increment of 0.2 percentage point to 85.6 percent, both the average daily

Table: Main economic indicators first three quarters of 2018

Indicator	2017 Jan-Sep	2018 Jan-Sep	Change
Hotel revenue per available room (US\$)	206	230	24
Stay-over visitors (numbers)	797,457	809,307	11,850
Cruise visitors (numbers)	537,069	568,261	31,192
Construction permits (Afl. million)	442	243	-199
Imports of machinery and electrotechnical equipment (Afl. million)	212	245	33
Turnover tax receipts (Afl. million)	78	94	16
Taxes on income and profit (Afl. million)	344	354	10
Twelve-month average rate of inflation (percent)	-0.4	2.3	2.7
Consumer confidence index (third quarter, index points)	96.5	94.3	-2.2

Sources: CBA, AHATA, ATA, CBS

room rate (ADR) and the revenue per available room (RevPAR) improved significantly (+11.5 percent and +11.7 percent, respectively). Tourism credits, reported by the commercial banks, resulted in an increase of 9.6 percent year-to-date September 2018. Consumption indicators showed mixed results in the first nine months of 2018. Higher revenues were observed from the turnover tax (+1.8 percent including a correction for the rise in tariffs), as well as import duties (+14.3 percent). Outstanding consumer credit by the commercial banks was 3.4 percent lower in September 2018 compared to December 2017, indicating a downturn in

private consumption. Investment indicators also provided divergent patterns. Both the number as well as the value of granted construction permits decreased. This development was attributed mostly to two large tourism-related projects for which building permits were granted in 2017; no such permits for projects of that scale had been issued in 2018. However, the two large projects led to substantial investments in 2018. Total volume of cement imports grew significantly in the first three quarters (+43.9 percent) of the year, while the total amount of both household and commercial mortgages compared to December 2017 increased steadily.

The business perception index (BPI) was relative pessimistic in the third quarter of 2018.

The 12-month average CPI inflation stood at 2.3 percent in September 2018 as the effects of higher gasoline and food prices were further amplified by a tightening of fiscal policy. The introduction of the BAVP and rise of the BAZV rate by 1.0 percentage point to 3.0 percent had an upward effect on prices. Core inflation was 1.2 percent in September 2018. For the first time in three years, the real exchange rate of the florin vis-à-vis the US dollar increased in the third quarter of 2018. This means that Aruba's competitive position deteriorated relative to the United States. The money supply expanded during the first three quarters of 2018 by 3.2 percent to Afl. 4,373.8 million. The net foreign assets grew by Afl. 39.7 million, meaning that reserves remained at an adequate level

throughout the first three quarters of 2018. However, the buffer between the benchmark and the coverage ratio was steadily falling from 2.7 months in January 2017 to 1.8 months in September 2018. Domestic credit extended to the private sector by the banking sector increased to Afl. 3,215.7 million at the end of September 2018, an increase of 2.6 percent compared to December 2017, the result of an expansion in housing mortgages (+6.1 percent) and business loans (1.8 percent), while a contraction was registered for consumer credit (-3.4 percent).

The fiscal deficit (cash basis) stood at Afl. 41.2 million, an improvement of Afl. 99.9 million compared to the same period of 2017. This outcome was driven by an increase in both tax and non-tax revenues, and contracting government expenditures. Total government debt reached Afl. 4,389.3 million, expanding by Afl. 230.4 million. □

Aruba to Me

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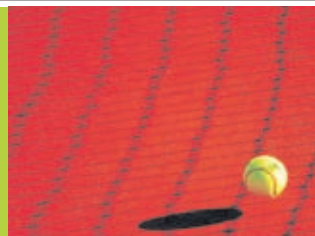
Annabell Nikole. She send us some great picture and wrote:

"Aruba to me is..... All about the Smiles!"

My name is Annabell Nikole. I am from New Hampshire. This is my 4th trip to Aruba and staying at my "Home Away From Home" the Divi Phoenix. What does Aruba mean to me and my family? I have been welcomed with open arms from everyone we have met and have accomplished my mission which is to get smiles especially from those who may not have a reason to smile. We have visited the hospital and visited a few sick children, we have been invited to local homes to meet elderly parents, restaurants and of course our favorite jewelry stores. One of our favorite places to visit is the chapel at Alto Vista to say a prayer of thanks to everyone who has blessed us with a smile. We want to thank everyone in Aruba for making us feel that we are home every time we come back. Love to Aruba from Annabell Nikole. Please follow me on Facebook: Annabell Nikole.



SPORTS



Trainer Bob Baffert, who has three Kentucky Derby hopefuls, waits by his barn before a workout at Churchill Downs Tuesday, April 30, 2019, in Louisville, Ky.

Associated Press

Baffert takes aim at record-tying 6th Kentucky Derby win

By BETH HARRIS
AP Racing Writer

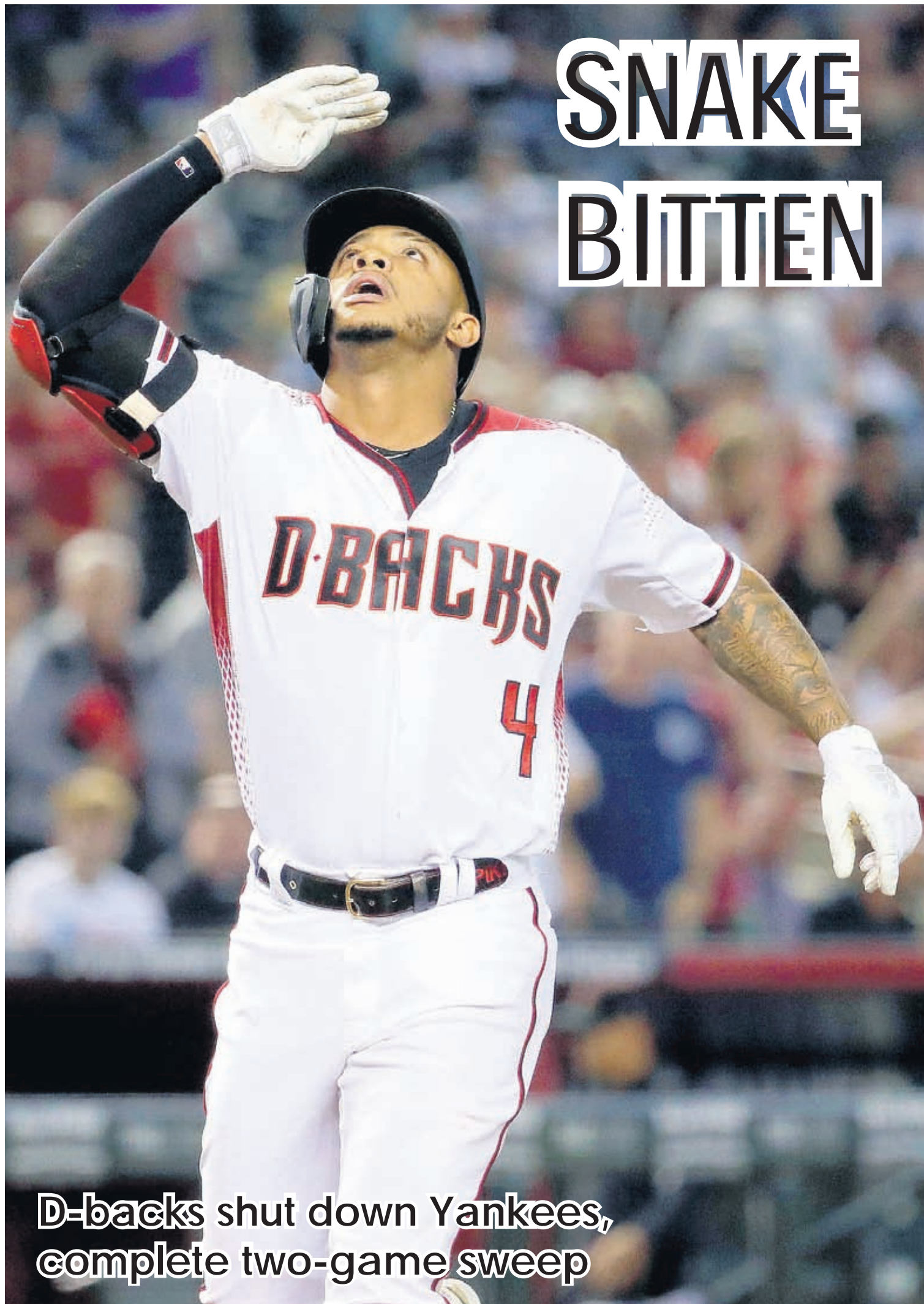
LOUISVILLE, Ky. (AP) — The pain of seeing Cavonnier get beat by a nose in his first Kentucky Derby nearly kept trainer Bob Baffert from returning to Churchill Downs.

He figured he would never again have a horse good enough to win on the first Saturday in May.

A year later, though, he won the Derby with Silver Charm and again the next year with Real Quiet. Since the mid-1990s, Baffert has won five Kentucky Derbies and two Triple Crowns while becoming the face of horse racing.

"The Kentucky Derby is still the one," Baffert said, standing outside his barn in front of a green-and-white sign freshly updated with the names of his Derby and Triple Crown winners.

Continued on Page 23



SNAKE BITTEN

D-backs shut down Yankees, complete two-game sweep

Arizona Diamondbacks' Ketel Marte salutes after hitting a solo home run against the New York Yankees during the fourth inning of a baseball game, Wednesday, May 1, 2019, in Phoenix.

Associated Press
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McCollum leads Blazers past cold Nuggets, 97-90

By **ARNIE STAPLETON**
AP Sports Writer

DENVER (AP) — After giving up 39 points to Damian Lillard in the opener, the Denver Nuggets were determined to make sure Portland's role players would have to bear the burden of evening up the series.

His teammates were up to the task on a night that Lillard, who came in averaging 34.8 points in the playoffs, was held to 14 points on 5-of-17 shooting.

CJ McCollum led six Trail Blazers in double figures with 20 points in a 97-90 victory at the Pepsi Center on Wednesday night that evened their series 1-1.

"It's very important," said Enes Kanter, who chipped in 15 points for Portland. "Teams can't guard him with one man. They were sending double-teams, triple-teams. That's when I said, 'He's making himself better, but at the same time he's making everybody else better around him.' He was passing the ball, really active on defense. He's been unbelievable, man."

The series shifts to Portland



Denver Nuggets center Nikola Jokic, right, fouls Portland Trail Blazers guard CJ McCollum during the second half of Game 2 of an NBA basketball second-round playoff series Wednesday, May 1, 2019, in Denver. Portland won 97-90.

Associated Press

for Game 3 Friday night, and Lillard's hoping a return to the Moda Center will help him find his long-range rhythm after he misfired on 14 of 19 3-pointers in Denver.

The Nuggets trimmed a 17-point, third-quarter defi-

cit to 95-90 in the final minute thanks to an astonishing 14 offensive rebounds in the fourth quarter and a 19-9 run before Rodney Hood's two free throws with 17 seconds left iced it.

"The good news is they had all of those offensive re-

bounds but they didn't convert a lot," Portland coach Terry Stotts said. "They were 8 for 24 on second-chance points. We were fortunate we came away not hurt as badly as we could have been on the offensive boards."

Nikola Jokic had 16 points and 14 boards but got off to a slow start and wasn't nearly the take-control force he was in Game 1, when he scored 37 points.

"The last quarter we missed a lot of put-backs, but 23 offensive rebounds is a big number," Jokic said. "The first half we had open shots but we didn't make any of those."

With Jokic taking — and missing — just one shot in the first quarter and scoring six points in the first half, the Nuggets trailed 50-35 at halftime after the franchise's worst quarter ever at home in the playoffs, one in which they made just 5 of 23 shots and missed all 10 of their 3-pointers. Nuggets coach Michael Malone said he admonished his team at halftime, "if you're not making shots, maybe attack the basket, maybe get to the foul line, maybe get to the rim." They started doing that after halftime, but the Blazers answered time after time, getting 15 points from Hood, 11 from Al-Farouq Aminu and 10 from Zach Collins. □

Celtics President Danny Ainge has mild heart attack

By **KYLE HIGHTOWER**
AP Sports Writer

BOSTON (AP) — Boston Celtics President Danny Ainge had a mild heart attack and is expected to fully recover.

The 60-year-old executive received immediate medical attention Tuesday night in Milwaukee, the team said in a statement Thursday. The Celtics were facing the Bucks in the second round of the playoffs. Ainge, who also had a mild heart attack in 2009, was scheduled to return to Boston.

Celtics coach Brad Stevens said after the team practiced Thursday that he's been in frequent communication with Ainge's family. He said they all seem to be doing well.

"That's all positive, but certainly it's scary," Stevens said. "To me, he's a friend



In this June 23, 2017, file photo, Boston Celtics team president Danny Ainge speaks at the team's practice facility in Waltham, Mass.

Associated Press

and the family's been so good to us. So, you don't even think about anything else. You just want him to be comfortable and feeling great, getting better, that it's a good prognosis." Game 3 of the Celtics' series with the Bucks is Friday night in Boston.

"This is much bigger than

basketball," Stevens said. "Game 3 is Game 3. You always want to play your best at this time of the year. Obviously, he really cares about the result. We all really care about the result. But this is a game. So, that's what it is."

Stevens' comments were echoed by Celtics guard

Marcus Smart, who said the team was informed by the coaching staff before practice Thursday. Now in his fifth season in Boston, Smart is the longest-tenured player on the roster. Smart shares a close relationship with Ainge, who was there to comfort him while his mother, Camellia Smart, endured and eventually died from cancer last year.

"Danny is just one of those guys. He takes time out of his life and his day, whatever he's doing and his schedule, to make sure you're all right," Smart said. "He constantly checks in on my family and everything like that. Just personally for me he's been like another mentor for me."

"From when I first got here Danny was that person I seen every day. ... He means a lot to my life as

well. I just hope he makes a speedy recovery."

Ainge was a two-sport star at BYU who in 1981 won the Wooden Award as the nation's top college basketball player. He played parts of three seasons with the Toronto Blue Jays, batting .269, before settling into a 14-year career in the NBA.

Ainge was an All-Star in 1988 and won two championships with the Celtics alongside Larry Bird, Robert Parish and Kevin McHale. Ainge coached the Phoenix Suns for three-plus seasons and took over the Celtics' basketball operations in 2003. He was named NBA executive of the year in 2008 after engineering the deals for Kevin Garnett and Ray Allen that helped the Celtics raise their record 17th championship banner. □

Hurricanes top Islanders 5-2; Stars beat Blues 4-2

By The Associated Press
RALEIGH, N.C. (AP) — Sebastian Aho set up Justin Williams' go-ahead goal with 9:45 remaining, and the Carolina Hurricanes beat the New York Islanders 5-2 on Wednesday night to take a 3-0 lead in their second-round series. Teuvo Teravainen had two goals, including an empty-netter with 57.1 seconds remaining, Justin Faulk also scored and Aho added another empty-net goal with 4.8 seconds to play. Curtis McElhinney — who at 35 years and 343 days old became the oldest goalie in NHL history to make his first playoff start — stopped 28 shots in place of Petr Mrazek, who is day to day with a lower body injury. The wild-card Hurricanes — in the playoffs for the first time in a decade — moved within a victory of a berth in the Eastern Conference final and took a 3-0 series lead for just the second time since they moved to North Carolina in 1997. After losing the first two games of its first-round series with Washington, Carolina has won seven of eight. Game 4 is Friday night in Raleigh.

Josh Bailey had a goal and an assist and Devon Toews scored on the power play for New York. Robin Lehner stopped 34 shots, but his career record against the Hurricanes fell to 0-7.

STARS 4, BLUES 1

DALLAS (AP) — Rookie Roope Hintz scored his fifth goal of the playoffs, Tyler Seguin and Alexander Radulov each had two assists and the Stars beat the St. Louis Blues to even the second-round series at two games each.

Rookie coach Jim Montgomery made a significant change by switching up

his top two lines, and the move paid off for Dallas. Seguin skated on a line with Jason Dickinson and Mats Zuccarello. That put Hintz, instead of Seguin, with Radulov and captain Jaime Benn.

Dickinson, Jason Spezza and John Klingberg also scored for the Stars, who were down 1-0 only five minutes into the game. Zuccarello also had two assists, giving him six in the series. Vladimir Tarasenko had a power-play goal for the Blues, who lost for the first time in their five road games this postseason. Robert Thomas also scored in the third period.

The Western Conference semifinal series returns to St. Louis for Game 5 on Friday night. □



Carolina Hurricanes' Justin Williams (14) scores the game-winning goal against New York Islanders goalie Robin Lehner (40), of Sweden, during the third period of Game 3 of an NHL hockey second-round playoff series in Raleigh, N.C., Wednesday, May 1, 2019. Carolina won 5-2.

Associated Press

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Diamondbacks beat Yankees 3-2 for 2-game sweep

By The Associated Press

PHOENIX (AP) — Ketel Marte homered, Merrill Kelly won his first start against New York and Arizona swept a two-game series. The Yankees dropped to 0-5 this year against teams that currently have winning records and is 17-8 against clubs that started the day under .500.

Kelly (3-2) allowed one run and five hits in 5 1/3 innings as Arizona won for the seventh time in nine games. Greg Holland pitched around Cameron Maybin's one-out walk in the ninth to remain perfect in seven save chances.

Masahiro Tanaka (2-3) allowed three runs and five hits in four innings, which matched his season low.

CARDINALS 5, NATIONALS 1
WASHINGTON (AP) — Miles Mikolas outpitched Max Scherzer, Marcell Ozuna had three hits and St. Louis beat Washington.

José Martínez drove in two runs for the Cardinals, who have won five straight and 10 of 11.

Washington has lost the first three games of the series and six of their last seven overall, and fell to 12-17.

The Cardinals touched up Scherzer (1-4) for three runs in the first.

The Nationals mustered a run in the fourth, but

couldn't solve Mikolas (3-2). The right-hander gave up a run and seven hits while striking out four in six innings.

PHILLIES 7, TIGERS 3

PHILADELPHIA (AP) — Maikel Franco hit a bases-clearing double in the seventh, Rhys Hoskins homered and Philadelphia beat Detroit.

Aaron Nola pitched 5 2/3 innings of one-run ball, helping the Phillies earn a split of the two-game series. The ace right-hander allowed seven hits and struck out six.

Philadelphia tagged Detroit's bullpen for six runs in two innings.

After Ronny Rodríguez gave the Tigers a 2-1 lead in the seventh with an RBI single off Seranthony Dominguez (2-0), the Phillies answered in the bottom half. J.T. Realmuto hit a one-out double to right off Buck Farmer (1-2) and Sean Rodriguez was hit by a pitch on his hand. Daniel Stumpf entered and Cesar Hernandez singled to load the bases.

Franco then ripped a liner to right-center off Victor Alcantara to put Philadelphia ahead 4-2.

BRAVES 5, PADRES 1

ATLANTA (AP) — Max Fried gave up one run in seven innings, Dansby Swanson homered and Atlanta spoiled Cal Quantrill's major



Arizona Diamondbacks' Ketel Marte, left, scores on a wild pitch as New York Yankees starting pitcher Masahiro Tanaka covers the plate during the second inning of a baseball game, Wednesday, May 1, 2019, in Phoenix.

Associated Press

league debut.

The Braves led 2-1 before scoring three runs in the seventh off Luis Perdomo, including Swanson's two-run homer.

Fried (4-1) allowed four hits. He had seven strikeouts and gave up a fourth-inning homer to Machado. Quantrill (0-1) overcame a shaky first inning to give up two runs on six hits and one walk in 5 2/3 innings.

REDS 1, METS 0

NEW YORK (AP) — Jose Iglesias homered off Edwin Diaz in the ninth inning to give the Cincinnati Reds a 1-0 victory.

Mets ace Jacob deGrom rediscovered his Cy Young

form, throwing seven shut-out innings of three-hit ball after losing his previous three starts. But as was often the case last season, his teammates didn't provide much support. It was the second time in three nights that Diaz (0-2) gave up a tiebreaking homer to the Reds in the ninth. Jesse Winker connected against the All-Star closer in the series opener Monday to give Cincinnati a 5-4 victory.

Zach Duke (2-1) got one out for the win. Michael Lorenzen worked a perfect ninth for his second save, as heavily used closer Raisel Iglesias was rested.

ROCKIES 11, BREWERS 4

MILWAUKEE (AP) — Nolan Arenado homered twice and drove in four runs, and the Colorado Rockies stopped a three-game slide.

Trevor Story also connected in Colorado's highest-scoring game of the sea-

son. Tony Wolters added two RBIs on a tiebreaking single in the sixth inning and a sacrifice fly in the eighth. Carlos Estévez (1-0) got one out for the win.

Milwaukee had won four of five. But the Brewers had to scramble after Chase Anderson ruptured a blister on his right middle finger, sending him to the injured list and handing the ball to Jacob Barnes for the start right before the game. Corbin Burnes (0-3), who was recalled from Triple-A to replace Anderson, took the loss. Mike Moustakas hit a two-run homer for Milwaukee, and Ben Gamel had two hits and two RBIs.

GIANTS 2, DODGERS 1

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — Buster Posey hit a game-ending single with two outs in the ninth inning to send the Giants to a victory. Dodgers starter Hyun-Jin Ryu and Giants counterpart Madison Bumgarner were on their games, leading to a tight game that wasn't decided until the bullpens took over late.

Steven Duggar and Gerardo Parra started the winning rally with back-to-back, one-out singles against Julio Urias (2-2). Pedro Báez then came in with two outs and runners on first and second and Posey hit a line drive to left field. Chris Taylor fielded the ball on one hop and threw on the fly to home, but Duggar slid in safely before Russell Martin could get the tag down on a high throw to give the Giants the series win.

Will Smith (1-0) pitched a scoreless ninth for the win. □



Cleveland ace Kluber breaks right forearm in loss to Marlins

By The Associated Press

MIAMI (AP) — Cleveland ace Corey Kluber broke his right forearm when he was hit by a line drive during the Indians' 4-2 loss to the Miami Marlins on Wednesday night.

Kluber (2-3) was struck by Brian Anderson's comebacker in the fifth inning. The Indians said he will be re-evaluated in Cleveland on Thursday.

The two-time American League Cy Young Award winner allowed eight hits and three runs in 4 2/3 innings, which left his ERA at 5.80.

Caleb Smith (3-0) struck out eight in seven innings, helping Miami stop a four-game slide. He allowed one run on Roberto Perez's third homer in the third inning.

Cleveland's Carlos Santana homered in the ninth off Sergio Romo, who regrouped to earn his fifth save.

CUBS 11, MARINERS 0

SEATTLE (AP) — Jon Lester and two relievers combined on a one-hitter, Javier Baez homered and doubled during a six-run second inning, and Chicago beat Seattle for its 13th win in 17 games.

The Cubs handed Seattle starter Marco Gonzales his first loss of the season, thanks to the big second inning when 12 batters came to the plate. Gonzales (5-1) failed to make it out of the inning after giving up five hits and walking two.

Lester (2-1) cruised after the early run support, allowing one hit in seven innings.

TWINS 6, ASTROS 2

MINNEAPOLIS (AP) — Martin Perez pitched eight scoreless innings in his longest start in two seasons, and Jonathan Schoop hit a towering two-run homer to help Minnesota beat Houston.

Perez (4-0) allowed four hits and two walks while striking out seven, improving to 3-0 with a 2.08 ERA in his first four starts with his new team. He got his first win in

relief.

Collin McHugh (3-3) hit Mitch Garver with a pitch to start the third, and Schoop made him pay with his drive into the third deck above left field.

RED SOX 7, ATHLETICS 3

BOSTON (AP) — Mitch Moreland homered and drove in another run on a sacrifice fly after a lucky hop off the second base bag moved the runners along as Boston completed a three-game sweep.

Boston was seven games under .500 and 7½ games out of first place on April 16. The Red Sox have won eight of 12 since.

Marcus Walden (4-0) relieved Red Sox starter Hector Velázquez after two innings and pitched three scoreless innings, striking out three and allowing one hit.

Mike Fiers (2-3) gave up three runs and five hit in five innings for Oakland, which has lost six in a row starting a nine-game trip.

PIRATES 7, RANGERS 5

ARLINGTON, Texas (AP) — Rookie Bryan Reynolds hit a three-run double as Pittsburgh completed a two-game sweep.

A day after his first career home run put the Pirates ahead in the 11th inning of a 6-4 win that ended an eight-game losing streak, Reynolds extended his career-opening hitting streak to nine games with a liner over left fielder Joey Gallo in the fourth.

Felipe Vázquez got his eighth save by striking out Shin-Soo Choo and pinch-hitter Hunter Pence with the potential tying run at second in the ninth.

Jameson Taillon (2-3) allowed five hits and four runs — three earned — in 6 1/3 innings.

ROYALS 3, RAYS 2, 1st GAME ROYALS 8, RAYS 2, 2nd GAME

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (AP) — Kelvin Gutierrez hit his first big league homer and Kansas City pounded AL Cy Young winner Blake



Cleveland Indians starting pitcher Corey Kluber throws to a Miami Marlins batter during the first inning of a baseball game Wednesday, May 1, 2019, in Miami.

Associated Press

Snell for the second time in a week to complete Kansas City's first doubleheader sweep since July 7, 2015, also against Tampa Bay.

In the opener, Adalberto Mondesi hit a two-run homer in a three-run first inning for Kansas City, and Jacob Junis (3-2) and the bullpen held on.

Snell was easily outpitched by Glenn Sparkman (1-1), who was recalled from Triple-A Omaha and earned his first career win.

Billy Hamilton's RBI single in the fourth chased Snell (2-3), who allowed seven runs, six hits and three walks. Ryne Stanek (0-1) lost the opener.

ORIOLES 5, WHITE SOX 4, 1st GAME WHITE SOX 7, ORIOLES 6, 2nd GAME

CHICAGO (AP) — Jonathan Villar hit a tiebreaking sacrifice fly in the eighth Kelvin Herrera (0-1) after Richie Martin's leadoff triple, and Baltimore won a

doubleheader opener to stop a four-game losing streak.

Branden Kline (1-0) pitched two scoreless innings, and Mychal Givens got four outs for his second save, striking out Jose Abreu with a runner on first to end the game.

Yonder Alonso hit a two-run single with two out in the ninth inning of the nightcap, and the White Sox salvaged a split. Leury Garcia sparked the winning rally with a leadoff walk. Adam Engel then reached on a bunt when Evan Phillips (0-1) threw late to first. With two down and runners on second and third, Jose Abreu was walked intentionally to get to Alonso, who lined a game-ending single into left field.

Thyago Vieira (1-0) pitched two scoreless innings for the win, and then was returned to Triple-A Charlotte after the game.

ANGELS 6, BLUE JAYS 3

ANAHEIM, Calif. (AP) — Mike Trout hit a three-run double and Albert Pujols added his 1,998th career RBI in the Angels' fifth victory in six games.

Trout's bases-clearing drive in the fourth chased Marcus Stroman (1-4) and punctuated the latest strong performance by the streaky Angels, who had lost nine of 10 before their current surge. With a first-inning single, Trout also set a franchise record by reaching base in his 28th consecutive game to start the season, topping Darin Erstad's 27 straight in 2000.

Randal Grichuk and Rowdy Tellez homered for the Blue Jays, who had won nine of 12 before losing the first two in this three-game series.

After Luke Bard threw a perfect first inning as the Angels' opener, Felix Pena (1-1) retired his first nine batters to earn the win. Ty Buttrey got six outs for his first save of the season. □

McIlroy scores well and shares lead at Quail Hollow

By DOUG FERGUSON

AP Golf Writer

CHARLOTTE, N.C. (AP) —

Rory McIlroy looked every bit like a player who has won twice at the Wells Fargo Championship.

He just didn't feel like one.

Twice when he was out of position off the tee, he managed to make birdies.

He missed a 4-foot birdie putt after his most amazing recovery of all. And late in his round Thursday, he ran off three straight birdies for a share of the lead with Joel Dahmen at 5-under 66, his lowest start in 10 appearances at Quail Hollow.

Walking to the scoring area, he smiled and said, "Managed my game."

His translation of that?

"Get the most out of your round, turn 70s in 66, like I did today," he said. "I felt like I hit it like I should have shot 1- or 2-under par. I didn't feel like it was a round that I deserved to shoot 5 under, but I got the most out of it, which is nice if I'm able to continue to do that sort of stuff."

He wasn't complaining. In his first start since tying for



Rory McIlroy, of Northern Ireland, watches his tee shot on the third hole during the first round of the Wells Fargo Championship golf tournament at Quail Hollow Club in Charlotte, N.C., Thursday, May 2, 2019.

Associated Press

21st at the Masters — his only finish out of the top 10 this year — McIlroy got out of trouble and made enough key putts to keep moving in the right direction.

His only bogey came after

a drive that bounced into a creek, and there's no recovering when a ball is in 4 feet of water.

Dahmen, a cancer survivor who tries not to take himself too seriously, played a more steady game. Playing

three groups behind the large crowd following McIlroy, he kept bogeys off his card and holed a 15-foot birdie putt on the 18th for his 66.

They were a shot ahead of a group that included

Patrick Reed, who is having the opposite year of McIlroy. The former Masters champion has yet to finish in the top 10, and he hopes a bogey-free round like Thursday morning will be a signal that his work on his swing is done and it's time to start hitting shots.

Defending champion Jason Day led a large pack at 68.

Dahmen tied for 12th at The Players Championship and earned just over \$250,000, which made him feel like "the richest man alive."

He decided to grow in a moustache, which he kept for good luck until hitting a ball in the water last week at the team event in New Orleans. So he shaved.

But he's still playing well enough to think this might be the week he at least gives himself a chance.

"I want to be in the hunt with nine to play. That's the goal," he said. "I haven't really been there yet. I'm good enough to. I should be there. I should have chances by now. I just kind of need to get out of my own way and let it go." □

Caster Semenya dealt another setback over testosterone rules

By GERALD IMRAY

AP Sports Writer

Track and field's governing body said Thursday it plans to enforce its new rules on testosterone levels in female runners more widely than sports' highest court is recommending, dealing another setback to Olympic sensation Caster Semenya.

On Wednesday, the Court of Arbitration for Sport ruled that the IAAF can force women like Semenya with unusually high testosterone to take medication to lower their levels of the muscle-building male sex hormone if they want to compete in events from 400 meters to the mile.

But the court also recommended the IAAF not enforce the rules in the 1,500 meters and the mile, saying there is not enough evidence that high testosterone gives such women a



In this photo taken Saturday April 27, 2019, South Africa's athlete Caster Semenya competes in an event at a meeting in Johannesburg.

Associated Press

competitive edge at those distances.

Asked on Thursday whether he would heed the court's advice, IAAF president Sebastian Coe gave a one-word answer: "No." In a

follow-up statement, the IAAF said it has enough evidence to apply the rules at the longer distances.

That decision closes off one way Semenya could have continued to compete

without having to take hormone-lowering drugs.

The 28-year-old South African is a two-time Olympic gold medalist in the 800 meters and a three-time world champion. But she has also run the 1,500 meters and has had some success, winning the bronze at the 2017 world championships.

She could still run even longer distances, like the 5,000 meters, without having to take medication. But she hasn't indicated what she will do.

Semenya has run the fourth, sixth and eighth fastest times ever in the two-lap 800-meter race. But her rivals have complained about having to compete against someone with hyperandrogenism, or unusually high levels of naturally occurring testosterone, a hormone that contributes to muscle tone and bone

mass.

In Wednesday's ruling, the court said the IAAF's testosterone regulations are "necessary, reasonable and proportionate means" of "preserving the integrity of female athletics."

Semenya is expected to run on Friday in Doha, Qatar, for the last time before the IAAF rules start being enforced next week. She has accused the governing body of singling her out, saying after the ruling: "For a decade the IAAF has tried to slow me down, but this has actually made me stronger."

Indian sprinter Dutee Chand has also been publicly identified as having high testosterone. Olympic silver medalist and Semenya rival Francine Niyonsaba of Burundi has confirmed she, too, has hyperandrogenism. She will also compete in Doha. □

NASCAR throws the flag on trying to liven up qualifying

By JENNA FRYER

CHARLOTTE, N.C. (AP) — NASCAR abandoned its years-long bid to add excitement to qualifying and announced Wednesday it will return to single-car laps after the current format became a laughingstock. All three national series will make the change at all oval tracks, starting this weekend at Dover.

NASCAR for more than five years has used a group qualifying format, but a new rules package this season created an unintended consequence: drivers could game the system. "The teams are always going to do what benefits them the most and unfortunately that was waiting, drafting," said Scott Miller, senior vice president of competition. "It wasn't a very compelling show. We owe it to our fans to provide something that is worth watching."

Miller did not concede it as a victory for the teams, who found every loophole to their benefit.

"I don't think anybody is at fault. It is something we tried, to try to provide a

good show, we were optimistic and it didn't work out," Miller said. "Maybe we should have been more proactive, maybe they should have been active. Whatever."

NASCAR was adamant it was trying to keep qualifying entertaining for fans because single-car runs are tedious, but teams continued to find loopholes that made the format a farce. Most drivers waited until the very last moment to pull off pit lane for their qualifying run; and all 12 drivers in the final round at California in March missed the cutoff point to even register a lap. NASCAR officials were furious and for the past month considered various options, but the emphasis on aerodynamic draft created through the new rules package backed the series into a corner. Teams wanted an aero pull and waited for another driver to go first, and they showed no intention of stopping despite several NASCAR attempts to tighten the rules.

Elimination-style rounds were also cut. Television partners Fox Sports and



Brad Keselowski (2) leads a pack of cars through the trip oval during the NASCAR Cup Series auto race at Talladega Superspeedway, Sunday, April 28, 2019, in Talladega, Ala.

Associated Press

NBC Sports are tasked with showing qualifying, which had been knockout rounds completed within an hour. Both TV partners indicated to NASCAR they could still produce an interesting show with single-car qualifying, which played a part in NASCAR's decision to go back to a format most find technical and rather boring.

"We've all seen how group qualifying evolved, and

with the teams all waiting until the last minute, it became problematic from a content standpoint and also from a storytelling standpoint for the broadcaster and radio perspective," Miller said. "It was very hard to figure out who was doing what when it was (happening) only in two minutes. This is also about restoring general order."

NASCAR said the single-car qualifying format will

be in effect for the rest of the season, though group qualifying will remain in place at road courses.

The qualifying order draw will be determined by the previous race's starting lineup. The session should still be completed in an hour, with potentially two cars half a lap apart making runs at the same time, and the networks will rely on technology to enhance the production. □

BAFFERT

Continued from Page 17

"I could win the Derby and just go home, that kind of race it is."

He will have three chances to make history Saturday. Baffert saddles Game Winner, Improbable and Roadster in the 145th Derby. Game Winner was made the early 9-2 favorite in a revised morning line after Omaha Beach was scratched Wednesday night because of a breathing problem.

Improbable and Roadster were made the co-second choices at 5-1, giving Baffert the top three betting choices in the 20-horse field.

A sixth victory by Baffert would tie him with Ben Jones for most in Derby history. Jones trained six Derby winners between 1938 and 1952. Jones and Baffert are among four trainers who have won the race four times.

Baffert equaled Jones'

feat of back-to-back Derby winners in 1997-98. He could do it again Saturday, having won last year with Justify, the colt that went on to give Baffert his second Triple Crown triumph. "I hate thinking about things because then I feel like I'm getting super jinxed," said the trainer who once got spooked at the sight of a black cat crossing his path on the backside of Churchill Downs.

Baffert has had three Derby starters in the same year twice before. In 2006, his entries finished ninth, 16th and 17th. In 1999, his horses were fourth, fifth and 11th. "There's nothing more exciting in the Derby than when you turn for home and your horses are in contention," the 66-year-old said. "You just want to be proud that your horses show up."

Baffert knew he was bringing the best horse to the Derby with Triple Crown winner American Pharoah in 2015 and Justify last year.

He hasn't talked up his current trio the same way.

"It's sort of wide-open," he said about the 20-horse field.

Game Winner has the strongest resume of Baffert's entries. He was last year's champion 2-year-old male and won the Breeders' Cup Juvenile at Churchill Downs. The colt lost last month's Rebel Stakes by a nose to Omaha Beach.

"He's tough, he's gritty. Coming to the Derby, you want a horse that's resilient," Baffert said. "He's ready for a big effort."

Improbable finished second to Omaha Beach in the Arkansas Derby.

Roadster has overcome the most obstacles, having undergone throat surgery last year and quarter cracks in his hooves this year, similar to a human breaking a fingernail near the cuticle.

"I knew he was something really special," said Baffert,



Trainer Bob Baffert looks out from his barn before a workout at Churchill Downs Wednesday, May 1, 2019, in Louisville, Ky. Baffert has three horses competing in the 145th running of the Kentucky Derby which is scheduled for Saturday, May 4.

Associated Press

who first touted the colt to TMZ.

The celebrity website's camera crew caught Baffert outside a trendy West Hollywood restaurant last year.

He gets stopped in airports by people who recognize him by his white hair. His horses are routinely overbet simply because he trains them.

"I used to be the horse guy," he said. "Now they know me by Baffert, so I've come a long way."

When asked by strangers if he has won the Kentucky Derby, he does not like to say how many times. Perhaps because he still cannot believe the answer is five. "I'm going in there like I'm trying to win my first Derby," he said. □

'Privacy-focused' Facebook puts the spotlight on groups

By BARBARA ORTUTAY
SAN JOSE, Calif. (AP) — Facebook is launching a major redesign of its app and website built around letting people connect with groups that share their interests — an attempt to shift its focus away from the untrammelled public sharing that has helped spread hate speech, extremism, misinformation and livestreamed video of massacres.

The new features, announced Tuesday at the company's annual F8 developer conference, are part of CEO Mark Zuckerberg's broader strategy for countering Facebook's growing array of critics, emboldened regulators and competitors. Zuckerberg, who at one point stood in front of a giant display reading "The future is private," acknowledged widespread skepticism of his plan to turn Facebook into a "privacy-focused" social network. "Look, I get that a lot of people aren't sure that we are serious about this," he said to laughter from the crowd. "We are committed to doing this well and to starting a new chapter for our products." The redesign isn't without risks of its own. When Snapchat rolled out major changes in late 2017, people hated them so much the service lost 3 million us-



Facebook CEO Mark Zuckerberg makes the keynote speech at F8, the Facebook's developer conference, Tuesday, April 30, 2019, in San Jose, Calif.

ers in a single quarter; analysts think it still hasn't recovered. Zuckerberg and his chief lieutenant, Sheryl Sandberg, have apologized repeatedly over the past year for Facebook's ever-expanding list of mishaps over privacy, data misuse and security problems. Last week, the company said it is setting aside \$3 billion to cover a possible fine from the Federal Trade Commission over privacy violations. Amid all that, Zuckerberg is encouraging Facebook users to rely more on private messaging and "communities." The redesign is structured to make it as easy to connect with groups as it is

with individual friends, he said. The groups cover a wide range of interests and topics — hiking, hair care, parenting, rare diseases. Recommended groups will appear on users' homepages. (The redesign will also do away with Facebook's signature blue banner.) Groups have also caused controversy for the company, especially as communities pop up around extremist topics. Facebook is working to remove groups that have "harmful content," Zuckerberg said, and to de-emphasize those that share misleading information. The redesigned mobile app

is live for U.S. users now, while the desktop version is coming later this year. This is Facebook's fifth major mobile app redesign since it launched more than a decade ago. A desktop app for Messenger is also coming later this year. And Messenger will eventually make end-to-end encryption the default setting for all messages, rather than an opt-in choice. End-to-end encryption protects messages as they travel between people, making it impossible to see them unless you are on the sending or receiving end. Inside WhatsApp — by far Facebook's most se-

cure app — the company is making status updates more private. Only people in each other's contact books will be able to see such updates. The privacy changes extend to Instagram as well. Facebook executives say the company is starting to test new features that hide "likes" from photos. Users will still be able to see how many likes their photos get, but the number won't appear at the bottom of each post. Facebook's dating service will come to U.S. users later this year. Facebook also announced a way to date friends — but only if each user separately adds the other to his or her own "secret crush" list. Zuckerberg said last week that Facebook's focus on private communications will be built out over the next five years or more. A few years ago, the company probably would have rolled out these changes right away and dealt with problems as they came up, Zuckerberg said. But no longer. "We have to change a lot of the ways we run this company," he said. Last year's F8 conference took place weeks after the Cambridge Analytica scandal, in which a political data-mining firm accessed personal data on tens of millions of Facebook users without their consent.

Girls outscore boys on tech, engineering, even without class



In this file photo taken Feb. 21, 2019, seventh grade students from Grace Academy in Hartford, Conn., work together on a robot using plans on a computer at the Connecticut Science Center in Hartford.

Associated Press

SEATTLE (AP) — Though less likely to study in a formal technology or engineering course, America's girls are showing more mastery of those subjects than their boy classmates, according to newly released national education data. Known as "The Nation's Report Card," the latest findings made public Tuesday from the National Assessment of Educational Progress also shows U.S. eighth-graders in 2018 did significantly better overall compared to 2014's test results, particularly among students who are white, black, Asian or low-income. The gap between

girls and boys is also growing wider as compared to the last time the federal government compiled technology and engineering literacy data among a representative sample of students and public schools across the country. The assessment made its debut in 2014, which also showed girls outscoring boys but by a smaller margin. In 2018, girls on average scored five points higher than boys on a 300-point scale, due to the fact that girls made gains between 2014 and 2018 while boys' scores stayed about the same. The latest findings

suggest the decade-long effort to champion more opportunities for girls and women in the fields of science, technology, engineering and math is gaining ground. The campaign to nurture the budding interest of those girls to meet the corporate world's seemingly insatiable demand for high-skilled workers in related well-paying jobs has drawn the money and attention from a wide spectrum of influencers, from tech giant Microsoft's philanthropic research and initiatives to supermodel Karlie Kloss' hands-on computer coding camp. □

Accepted! How to decipher your college aid

By ANNA HELHOSKI

Associated Press

With college acceptances in hand, now comes the hard part: understanding your financial aid offers.

These letters are notorious for being laden with jargon that differs from offer to offer, making comparison difficult. But you can learn how to interpret award letters to understand the costs and choose an affordable option.

WHAT TO EXPECT FROM AID OFFERS

Financial aid offers should include all of the federal, state and school aid you can access. That could mean free aid, such as grants, scholarships and work-study opportunities, that doesn't need to be repaid, and unsubsidized and subsidized federal loans, which do. If these aid types are grouped together without explanation, they can be hard to distinguish.

Your offer also might include a parent PLUS loan as part of the award, but avoid using it if possible. These loans have higher interest rates than loans made directly to students.



In this March 14, 2019, file photo, people walk on the Stanford University campus in Santa Clara, Calif.

Associated Press

And unlike typical student loans, only parents can take them on, and they require credit history to qualify.

Schools also must provide the cost of attendance, but that's not the amount you owe. It bundles indirect costs like books, supplies and transportation, with direct costs such as tuition,

fees, housing and food.

The cost of attendance is usually an average, says Brenda Hicks, director of financial aid at Southwestern College in Winfield, Kansas. Things like room and board could be pricier if you opt for a more expensive package, like a single room.

WHY OFFERS ARE DIFFICULT FOR STUDENTS TO READ

Schools use different names to refer to the same type of loan.

For instance, one college's aid offer might list a "Federal Unsub Stafford Loan," and another school's might say "DL Unsubsidized Loan." But they're the same thing. Unsubsidized federal student loans are the only type of federal loan every

student can access, regardless of financial need. They're different from subsidized loans, which don't accrue interest while the student is in school. Subsidized loans ease costs for students, which is why they're given to those who demonstrate need.

But among 455 college aid award letters, there were 136 different names used to describe the federal unsubsidized loan, according to a 2018 study by New America, a nonpartisan think tank, and uAspire, a Boston-based college affordability nonprofit.

"How can we expect families and students to navigate this process if even the aid that everyone qualifies for is called something different?" says Rachel Fishman, deputy director for research with the education policy program at New America.

There are two main obstacles for colleges in standardizing offers, according to Fishman: There's no legal standard for language in award letters, and schools use different software to manage aid. □

US productivity grows at solid 3.6% rate in first quarter

By MARTIN CRUTSINGER

Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — U.S. productivity grew at a solid 3.6% rate in the first three months of this year, the strongest quarterly gain in more than four years and a hopeful sign that a long stretch of weak productivity gains may be coming to an end.

The first quarter increase in productivity was more than double the 1.3% rate of gain in the fourth quarter, the Labor Department reported Thursday. Labor costs actually fell in the first quarter, dropping at an annual rate of 0.9%, indicating that tight labor markets are not creating unwanted wage and inflation pressures.

If it continues, an uptick in productivity would be good news for President Donald Trump and his goal

of achieving sustained economic growth above 3%. Productivity, the amount of output per hour of work, is a key factor determining an economy's growth potential.

With the strong gain in the first quarter, productivity over the past year has grown by 2.4%, the best four-quarter gain since a 2.7% rise in 2010.

Productivity gains over the past decade have for the most part been lackluster, averaging annual gains of just 1.3% from 2007 through 2018. That was less than half the 2.7% gains seen from 2000 to 2007, a period when the economy was benefiting from technology improvements in computers and the internet.

From 1947 through 2018, annual productivity gains averaged 2.1%.

Economists have labeled

the slowdown in productivity since the Great Recession as one of the country's biggest challenges. However, recent signs have indicated that may be turn-

and growth in productivity. The overall economy, as measured by the gross domestic product, expanded at a surprisingly robust 3.2% annual rate in the first three

months of this year. For all of 2018, GDP growth was 2.9%. The Trump administration has projected sus-



In this Jan. 28, 2019, file photo a container ship is unloaded at the Port of Oakland in Oakland, Calif.

Associated Press

ing around. The economy's potential to grow is governed by two major factors, growth of the labor force

months of this year. For all of 2018, GDP growth was 2.9%. The Trump administration has projected sus-

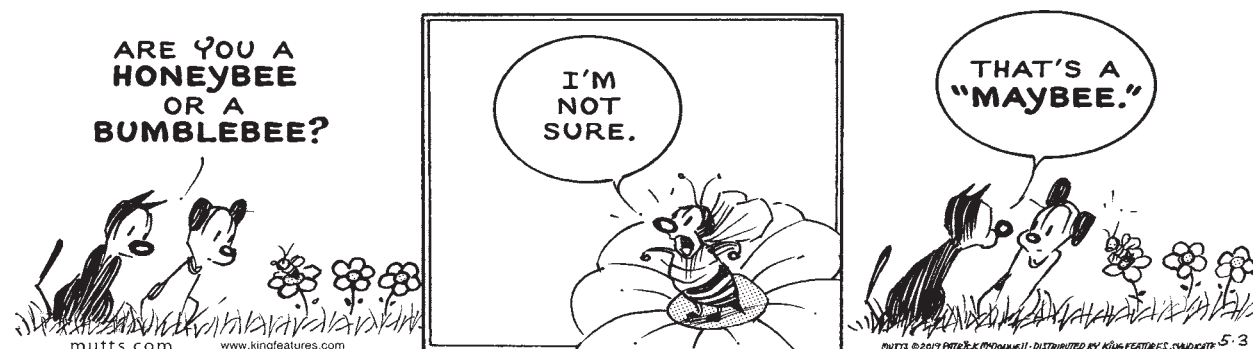
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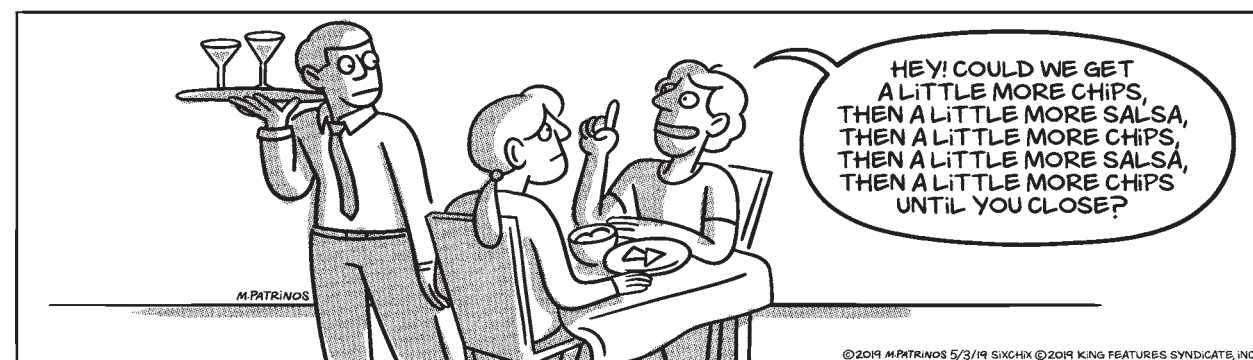
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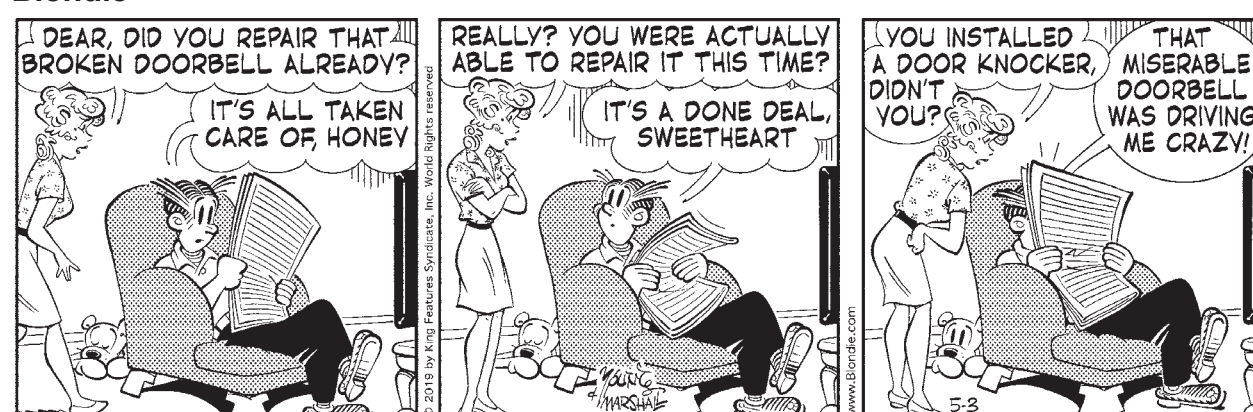
Mutts



6 Chix



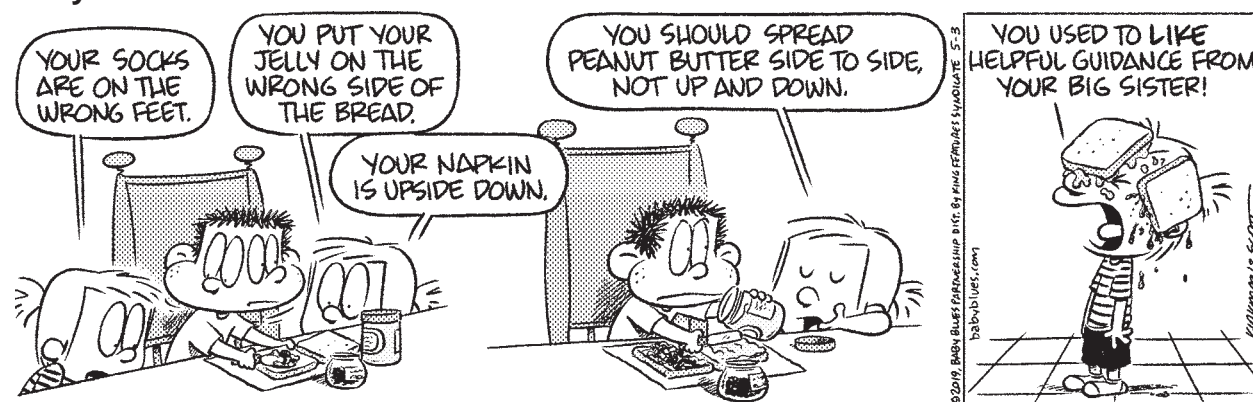
Blondie



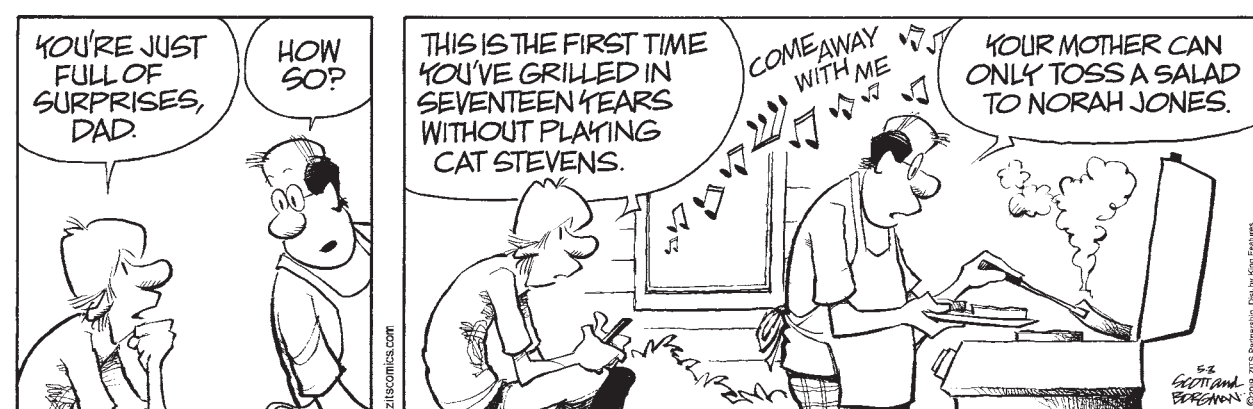
Mother Goose & Grimm



Baby Blues



Zits



Conceptis Sudoku

3						2		1
			2		9			
				1	3	9		5
	9					5	6	
		1				8		
	8	2					7	
1		7	5	2				
			3		6			
2		6						7

Difficulty Level ★★ ★★

5/03

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Sunday.

Yesterday's puzzle answer

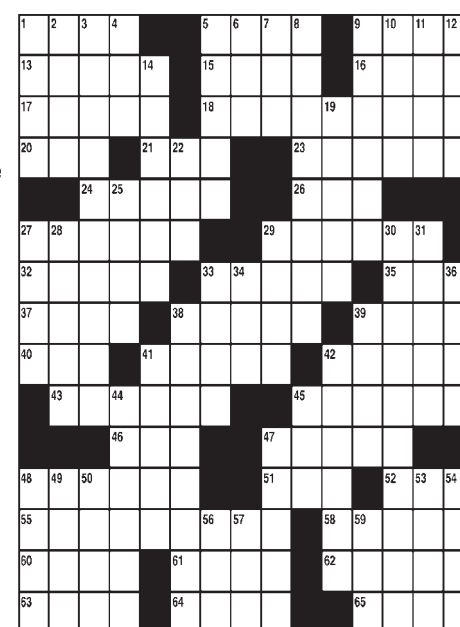
3	7	9	4	2	6	5	1	8
8	5	6	1	3	7	9	2	4
2	1	4	9	8	5	7	6	3
4	3	7	5	9	2	1	8	6
1	9	8	6	4	3	2	7	5
5	6	2	8	7	1	3	4	9
7	8	3	2	6	9	4	5	1
9	4	5	7	1	8	6	3	2
6	2	1	3	5	4	8	9	7

ACROSS

- Buzzi or Ginsburg
- European range
- Small store
- Plant pest
- Mortgage, for one
- "Penny ___", Beatles hit
- Steed
- Stupidity
- ___ cone; icy treat
- Deadly critter
- Singer Stevie
- Repasts
- Right off the ___; immediately
- Partial refund to the buyer
- Man of the cloth
- Ascended
- Misses
- Squealer
- Nearly all
- Of the kidneys
- Rind
- Sorority letter
- Cocky; bubbly
- Therefore
- Hold in high regard
- Giggle
- Pale
- Lively dance
- No-nonsense
- Ram's mate
- Org. for Knicks & Nuggets
- Unfinished business
- Low point
- Border on
- Chess piece
- Insurance policy seller
- New York team
- Hang around
- Chances

DOWN

- Stadium shouts
- "Once ___ a time..."
- Dangerous blood clot condition
- 41 Traquility



Created by Jacqueline E. Mathews

5/3/19

Thursday's Puzzle Solved

M	A	P	M	A	R	G	E	F	L	A	T
O	V	E	R	A	L	I	A	S	R	A	G
W	I	R	E	L	I	C	I	T	O	N	E
D	U	P	L	I	C	A	T	E	Z	E	S
R	A	C	E								
S	T	R	O	K	E						
P	R	O	V	E							
L	A	T	E								
I	D	O									
T	E	R	R	I	B	L	E				
A	P	R									
F	G	H									
I	R	O	N								
F	A	M									
E	Y	E	D								

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5/3/19

- | | |
|----------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 42 U.S. state capital | 50 Disastrous defeat |
| 44 Distorts | 53 Tie up |
| 45 Disabled car's need | 54 Painting & dancing |
| 47 Annoying | 56 "___ on your life!" |
| 48 Close angrily | 57 ___ number on; treat badly |
| 49 "Oh, ___ in England..." | 59 Not long ___; recently |
| (Robert Browning) | |



In this June 13, 2012 file photo, Asian carp jump from the Illinois river as scientists aboard a research boat activate an electric current to stun fish so they can be scooped up and examined near Havana, Ill.

Associated Press

Illinois governor OKs first steps on blocking Asian carp

By JOHN FLESHER

TRAVERSE CITY, Mich. (AP)

— Illinois Gov. J.B. Pritzker says he is willing to take initial steps toward fortifying a lock-and-dam system on a Chicago-area waterway so it can protect Lake Michigan from invasive Asian carp.

Pritzker, a Democrat, told the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers in a letter Friday that he had authorized the state's cooperation with preconstruction, engineering and design work at the Brandon Road Lock and Dam near Joliet, Illinois. But he voiced misgivings about the cost and said his state "is not in a financial position to commit to the full plan in

its current form."

The Corps has proposed installing devices such as an electric barrier, noisemakers and an air bubble curtain in a specially designed channel to deter fish from swimming upstream and remove those that don't turn back. The adjacent lock would be retooled to flush away unwanted species floating on the water. An updated version of the plan released last November put the price tag at \$778 million, which was much higher than an earlier \$275 million estimate. That drew criticism from Illinois, which agreed last year to serve as "non-federal sponsor" of the project. □



Classifieds

Halley Time Travel

Aruba Divi Phoenix

1 BR WK # 18 and 19
Building # 6 5th floor
32 weeks remain \$10 K each
Studio Wk # 19
building # 7 6th floor
30 weeks remain \$ 7 K

Divi Village Resorts

Studio wk # 21
building B 3 rd floor
30 weeks remain \$5 K

Costa Linda Beach Resorts

2 BR WK #16 \$10 K
Ground floor over look light house

Renaissance Suites

1 BR WK # 15 \$7K
3rd floor harbor view
1 BR WK # 10 and 11
5th floor garden view
9 K each

La Cabana Beach and Casino

Sunday Check in :
1 BR WK #18 ground floor
pool/ocean view \$6K
studio wk #18 ground floor
pool/ocean view \$5K

Marriott Ocean Club

Platinum Season
1 BR Ocean View \$10 K
2 BR Ocean View \$ 18K
2 BR Ocean Front \$ 28 K
Gold Season
1 BR Ocean View \$ 6 K
2 BR Ocean View \$8 K
2 BR Ocean Front \$12 K

Marriott Surf Club

Platinum Season
2 BR Garden View \$15 K
2 BR Ocean View \$17 K
2 BR Ocean Side \$18 K
2 BR Ocean Front \$27 K

Marriott Surf Club

Gold Season
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2 BR Ocean View \$ 8K
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Aruba Bank N.V. Acc. #332668
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Assistant Director

Xiomara Arends

Editor in Chief

Linda Reijnders

(linda.reijnders@cspnv.com)

Liza Koolman (Management assistant)

Editors

Richard Brooks
Jencarlo Trinidad

Sales

Linda Reijnders
(linda.reijnders@cspnv.com)
Sulaika Croes

Classifieds

Rachelle Danje
(rachelle.danje@cspnv.com)

Distribution and Collection

accounting@bondia.com

Social / Website

Cristian Soto Garcia
Pilar Flores
Juan Luis Pinto

Columnists

Anthony Croes
Joris Zantvoort
Louedska Maduro
Shanella Pantophlet
Steve Francees
Thais Franken

Weststraat 22
T: 582-7800

E: news@arubatoday.com

W: www.arubatoday.com

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IMSAN 24 Hours
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Eagle Tel. 587 9011

San Nicolas:

San Lucas Tel. 584 5119

OTHER

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Blood Bank Aruba 587 0002
Urgent Care 586 0448
Walk-In Doctor's Clinic
+297 588 0539

EMERGENCY

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Noord	527 3200
Sta. Cruz	527 2900
San Nicolas	584 5000
Police Tipline	11141
Ambulancia	911
Fire Dept.	115
Red Cross	582 2219

TAXI SERVICES

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Prof. Taxi	588 0035
Taxi D.T.S.	587 2300
Taxi Serv. Aruba	583 3232
A1 Taxi Serv.	280 2828

TRAVEL INFO

Aruba Airport	524 2424
American Airlines	582 2700
Avianca	588 0059
Jet Blue	588 2244
Surinam	582 7896

CRUISES



May 7

Freedom of the Seas

May 8

Adventure of the Seas

Monarch

AID FOUNDATIONS

FAVI- Visually Impaired
Tel. 582 5051

Alcoholics Anonymous
Tel. 736 2952

Narcotics Anonymous
Tel. 583 8989

Women in Difficulties
Tel. 583 5400

Centre for Diabetes
Tel. 524 8888

Child Abuse Prevention
Tel. 582 4433

Quota Club Tel. 525 2672

General Info

Phone Directory Tel. 118

Chinese fossil sheds light on mysterious Neanderthal kin

NEW YORK (AP) — Nearly 40 years after it was found by a monk in a Chinese cave, a fossilized chunk of jawbone has been revealed as coming from a mysterious relative of the Neanderthals. Until now, the only known remains of these Denisovans were a few scraps of bone and teeth recovered in a Siberian cave. DNA from those Siberian fossils showed kinship with Neanderthals. But the remains disclosed little else.

The new discovery was made roughly 1,400 miles (2,300 kilometers) to the southeast in Gansu province of China. The right half of a jawbone with teeth is at least 160,000 years old, scientists reported Wednesday in the journal *Nature*. No DNA could be found, but scientists recovered protein fragments that they compared to the Siberian DNA. That showed the fossil came from a Denisovan. The find addresses several mysteries. One was why the Siberian DNA indicated Denisovans were adapted to living at high altitudes when the Siberian cave is relatively close to sea level. The Chinese cave, by contrast, is on the high-altitude Tibetan Plateau, about 10,800 feet (3,280 meters) high. "Now we have an explanation," said Jean-Jacques



This undated photo made available by Dr. Dongju Zhang of Lanzhou University in April 2019 shows the right half of the Xiahe mandible, found in 1980 in the Baishiya Karst Cave in the Gansu province of China.

Associated Press

Hublin of the Max Planck Institute for Evolutionary Anthropology in Leipzig, Germany, one of the paper's authors. In fact, "it's a big surprise" that any human relative could live in the cold climate and thin air of the plateau at that time, more than 100,000 years before our own species showed up there, he told reporters. Previous research had indicated that Denisovans must have lived somewhere other than Siberia, because traces of their

DNA can be found in several present-day populations of Asia and Australia whose ancestors probably didn't pass through that region. The new finding expands their known range, although Hublin said it's still not clear where Denisovans first appeared. They are named for Siberia's Denisova cave, where the remains were found. The new work was a long time in coming. The monk who found the fossil in 1980 gave it to a Buddhist leader, who passed it along to

Lanzhou University in China. Study of it began in 2010. The discovery also provides new anatomical details that can be compared to other fossils from China, some of which are "good candidates for being Chinese Denisovans," Hublin said.

Experts unconnected to the research agreed the fossil could help identify other remains as Denisovan. "We always assumed ... that Denisovans were distributed all across Asia,"

said Bence Viola of the University of Toronto. The *Nature* paper points out similarities to a fossil jaw reported in 2015 that had been dredged by a fishing net off the coast of Taiwan. So maybe the Denisovan range can be extended that far south, he said. Such linking of fossils might eventually reveal Denisovan body shape and size, he said. From the scant known remains "I assume they were large guys, but it's kind of hard to prove," Viola said.

In addition to the anatomy, the study's approach of using protein from the bone or teeth could also be used on fossils to look for evidence of Denisovan identity, said Eric Delson of Lehman College in New York. Even if a fossil is found not to be Denisovan, the analysis could reveal details of how it fits on the evolutionary tree, he said. "The method potentially tells us a whole new way of looking at fossils," he said.

Katerina Harvati of the University of Tuebingen in Germany said the ability of Denisovans to adapt to the inhospitable climate of the Tibetan Plateau is remarkable. It adds to growing evidence that our ancient relatives were more capable than scientists had thought, she said. □

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In this March 8, 2019 file image taken from video made available by NASA, the SpaceX Crew Dragon capsule is hoisted onto a ship in the Atlantic Ocean off the Florida coast after it returned from a mission to the International Space Station.

Associated Press

SpaceX confirms crew capsule destroyed in ground test

By **MARCIA DUNN**
AP Aerospace Writer
CAPE CANAVERAL, Fla. (AP)

— SpaceX finally confirmed Thursday its crew capsule was destroyed in ground testing two weeks ago and conceded that the accident is "not great news" for the company's effort to launch astronauts this year. Hans Koenigsmann, a company vice president, told reporters it's too soon to know what went wrong during the April 20 test or whether the crew Dragon capsule's test flight in March — minus astronauts — contributed to the failure. Flames engulfed the capsule a half-second before the launch-abort thrusters were to fire. SpaceX still cannot access the testing area at Cape Canaveral for safety reasons, according to Koenigsmann. The company does not want to disturb any evidence that could provide clues to the failure, he noted. The company has concluded, meanwhile, that the smaller, simpler cargo version of the Dragon capsule is safe to fly to the International Space Station. SpaceX was on track to launch a Falcon rocket

with station supplies early Friday morning, although approaching storms threatened yet another delay. Earlier in the week, the flight was postponed by a major power shortage at the space station. An old power-switching unit failed Monday, slashing the space station's power by 25% and ruling out any deliveries. By Thursday, flight controllers had replaced the box and restored full power to the orbiting outpost. The cargo and crew versions of the Dragon capsule are considerably different.

The cargo and crew versions of the Dragon capsule are considerably different.

The cargo and crew versions of the Dragon capsule are considerably different.

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Leonardo drawing, portrait mark 500 years since his death

By JILL LAWLESS

Associated Press

LONDON (AP) — A drawing of a bearded, pensive-looking man owned by Queen Elizabeth II is a portrait of Leonardo da Vinci, a royal art adviser said Thursday on the 500th anniversary of the artist and polymath's death.

Martin Clayton, head of prints at the Royal Collection, said the sketch was made by one of Leonardo's assistants shortly before his death on May 2, 1519.

Clayton said "the elegant straight nose, the line of the beard rising diagonally up the cheek to the ear" and other details strongly resemble the only other known portrait of Leonardo done in his lifetime, by Francesco Melzi.

Clayton said "there are strong indications that this too is a depiction of the artist."

The portrait will go on display alongside about 200 drawings from the monarch's huge collection of



In this photo taken on Tuesday, April 30, 2019, Martin Clayton, Head of prints and drawings at the Royal Collection Trust, poses for the media with drawing which has been recently confirmed as a portrait of Leonardo Da Vinci and forms part of the Royal Collection, at Windsor Castle in Windsor, England.

Associated Press

Leonardo works at the Queen's Gallery in Buckingham Palace from May 24 to Oct. 13.

The presidents of Italy and France were due to attend

a ceremony Thursday in Amboise, France, where Leonardo died 500 years ago, and galleries around the world with a link to the artist are celebrating his

work.

Leonardo is considered by many the ultimate Renaissance genius, combining the roles of artist, scientist and inventor.

"There really hasn't been anybody then or since who has combined this extraordinary genius for these totally different areas of achievement," said Gregory Rubinstein, worldwide head of Old Master drawings at Sotheby's. "I think that's what's at the heart of our fascination."

Sotheby's announced Thursday that a major, rarely seen Leonardo drawing is going on display in New York.

The auction house is hanging "Leda and the Swan" — last displayed publicly in 2003 — in its Manhattan galleries next month as part of an exhibition of treasures from Chatsworth, one of Britain's grandest country houses.

Leonardo created the pen-and-ink drawing in 1506, at the same time he was working on the "Mona Lisa." It depicts Leda, wife of the king of Sparta, with the god Jupiter, who has disguised himself as a swan to seduce her. □

Lawyers, nurses, soldier, ballerina compete for Miss USA

By SCOTT SONNER

RENO, Nev. (AP) — The women who want to be crowned the next Miss USA on Thursday include a psychological operations expert in the Army reserves, a former NFL cheerleader working to become a surgical nurse and a lawyer who represents some prisoners for free.

There's also an ex-professional ballerina who worked as a style expert for the Home Shopping Network, a portrait artist with a second-degree black belt in taekwondo and the first woman of Samoan decent to compete for the title.

The 51 contestants from each U.S. state and the District of Columbia will take the stage in Reno, which is holding the event for the first time. Vanessa and Nick Lachey will serve as hosts, and Reno Mayor Hillary Schieve is among the all-female panel of judges.

The field of contestants will be cut to 15 at the start of the two-hour broadcast

based on their performances during preliminary rounds. Three finalists will emerge during the evening gown, swimsuit and interview portions of the competition.

The youngest competitor is Miss Wyoming Addison Treesh, a 19-year-old honors student at the University of Wyoming who's among several advocating for prevention and treatment of eating disorders.

Virginia's contestant, Courtney Lynne Smits, joined the U.S. Army at age 17. A fifth-generation military member, she now works in the reserves to reduce veteran suicides.

Mississippi's Madeleine Overby is an ex-NFL cheerleader for the New Orleans Saints working on her master's degree in nursing.

Cheslie Kryst, representing North Carolina, earned a law degree and an MBA at Wake Forest University before becoming a civil litigation attorney who does pro bono work to reduce

sentences for inmates.

Pennsylvania's Kailyn Marie Perez recently graduated from law school after her gig at the Home Shopping Network and hopes to become a political correspondent or host her own talk show some day.

New York's Florinda Kajtazi, the artist who does taekwondo, has a degree in forensic psychology and is taking prerequisites to become a physician assistant. Nevada's Tianna Tuamohe- loa, the first competitor of Samoan decent, works for Top Rank Boxing, a boxing promotions company in Las Vegas.

The winner — who advances to the Miss Universe competition — will be crowned by reigning Miss USA Sarah Rose Summers of Nebraska, who won last year in Shreveport, Louisiana.

President Donald Trump used to own the Miss Universe Organization, which previously ran the Miss USA pageant with NBCUniversal. □



In this Dec. 13, 2018, file photo, Miss USA Sarah Rose Summers participates in the swimsuit and evening gown stage of the 67th Miss Universe competition in Bangkok, Thailand.

Associated Press

Summer Movie Preview: Capturing the essence of Elton John

By LINDSEY BAHR
Associated Press
LAS VEGAS (AP) — Sir Elton John gave actor Taron Egerton some unlikely advice for portraying him in "Rocketman": Don't do an impression. Sing the songs the way you want. It was a freeing, if unusual, bit of direction for a project about himself that John had been trying to make for seven years. But it gets to the heart of what "Rock-

etman," out May 31, is trying to do: Evoke the essence of John's life, as told by John, from his childhood to middle age and all the success, tumult and darkness behind all those fantastical costumes, and not give audiences a Wikipedia entry. You won't even hear John's voice at all — Egerton performs the songs himself. It's an unconventional biopic for an unconventional rock star and John, 72, certainly



This image released by Paramount Pictures shows Taron Egerton as Elton John in a scene from "Rocketman."

Associated Press

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KELLY CLARKSON | NICK JONAS

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PH MON-FRI 5:10 | 7:15
SAT-SUN 1:00 | 3:05 | 5:10 | 7:15

PBP MON-THU 4:40 | 6:45 | 8:50
FRI 4:40 | 6:45 | 8:50 | 10:55
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SPANISH MON-FRI 3:45 | 5:50 | 7:55
SAT-SUN 1:40 | 3:45 | 5:50 | 7:55

SETH ROGEN | CHARLIZE THERON

LONGSHOT

WITH SPANISH SUBTITLES

PH MON-THU 5:45 | 8:30
FRI 5:45 | 8:30 | 11:15
SAT 3:00 | 5:45 | 8:30 | 11:15
SUN 3:00 | 5:45 | 8:30

PBP MON-SUN 3:40 | 6:25 | 9:10

YTV MON-SUN 3:40 | 6:25 | 9:10

PBP FRI-SAT 10:10

MICHAEL EALY | DENNIS QUAIL

THE INTRUDER

WITH SPANISH SUBTITLES

PH MON-THU 5:45 | 8:10
FRI 5:45 | 8:10 | 10:35
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SAT 2:15 | 4:40 | 7:05 | 9:30 | 11:55
SUN 2:15 | 4:40 | 7:05 | 9:30

ROBERT DOWNEY JR. | CHRIS EVANS

AVENGERS: ENDGAME

WITH SPANISH SUBTITLES

PH MON-FRI 4:05 | 7:50

PH MON-THU 4:35 | 6:50 | 8:20
FRI 4:35 | 6:50 | 8:20 | 10:30
SAT 12:50 | 3:05 | 4:35 | 6:50 | 8:20 | 10:30
SUN 12:50 | 3:05 | 4:35 | 6:50 | 8:20

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SAT-SUN 1:10 | 4:55 | 8:40

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SUN 2:45 | 6:30

SPANISH MON-FRI 4:55 | 8:40
SAT-SUN 1:10 | 4:55 | 8:40

LINDA CARDELLINI | RAYMOND CRUZ

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wasn't going to get in the way of that.

The project itself came together in a roundabout way, after a few years of false starts. At one point, Tom Hardy was actually signed on to star. But it wasn't until producer Matthew Vaughn — who is friends with John and his husband David Furnish and had convinced John to do a cameo in his "Kingsman" sequel — proposed the idea of Egerton that things really started moving forward.

Director Dexter Fletcher said it was the, "idea of Taron playing Elton that ignited it for me." He'd worked with the actor before, on "Eddie the Eagle," and knew he had the vocal chops to do it and the daring to be able to "go there" for an R-rated musical.

In "Rocketman," there will be rock and roll, drugs, sex, rehab and an exploration of John's relationship with his then-manager John Reid, who is played by "Game of Thrones" alum Richard Madden. In other words, "Bohemian Rhapsody" this is not.

"It's where they didn't dare to go on 'Bohemian Rhapsody,' where they didn't want to go," said Fletcher, who was actually the one who finished the Oscar-winning Freddie Mercury

biopic after director Bryan Singer exited. "It's part of Elton's life. He wears glasses. He plays the piano. He's gay...I saw it as an opportunity to look at that. It's responsibly and creatively and respectfully handled and I'm really happy with what we've done. I think it might make a difference." "Bohemian Rhapsody" was criticized for glossing over Mercury's sexuality.

For Egerton, 29, the opportunity to play John was a "surreal dream," if a little daunting.

"I'm a big believer in doing things that scare you and it is intimidating but I wouldn't have done it if I didn't feel it was a good candidate for the job," said Egerton. "I always felt that it had the potential to be quite special." He plays the music icon from around age 17, when he's still going by Reginald Dwight, to age 43. To prepare, he trawled YouTube for old clips and acquainted himself with some lesser known songs, but he knew that there was a limit to what he'd be able to glean from the public record, in part because the film shows John at some of his darkest moments, which weren't exactly happening when the cameras were on. And he found that he learned the most by getting to know John himself.

In fact, Egerton has become good friends with John over the past few years, starting with his "Kingsman" cameo, evolving to their first one-on-one outing for takeaway curry, and culminating into a relationship where they now speak most days.

"He's great fun," Egerton said. "He's a great raconteur and he's very funny. And he's very interested in me as well."

They even have been known to give each other gifts. John gave Egerton his first diamond earring (which Egerton wears for the rehab scenes) and Egerton, in return, got John's prescription added to the glitzy glasses he wears in the scene where he's writing "Your Song."

"He's worn them a couple of times since which really touched me," Egerton said. As with the singing, Egerton had the freedom to put his own spin and interpretation on things.

"It's a fantasy creation," he said. "When you see the film I hope I am recognizable as him. But it's undeniably me as well."

It's worth reiterating that this is not even attempting to be a documentary. As Fletcher says, John is telling his story from memory, and he's a "slightly unreliable narrator." □

With albinism, musician Lazarus finds light in the darkness

By MESFIN FEKADU

NEW YORK (AP) — Lazarus Chigwandali, a Malawian street musician with albinism, was once lured into a car.

He was kidnapped, and the plan was to cut up his body and sell his parts to witch doctors, who would use them in potions thought to bring good luck.

It sounds surreal — but it is the reality that people with albinism face in parts of Africa. And though Chigwandali was one of the lucky ones to get away, others — including children seen as easy targets — have died after being captured and sold to witch doctors and on the black market.

Chigwandali's life story is the center of "Lazarus," the new short documentary playing at the Tribeca Film Festival in New York.

"The thing that's so shocking to me is that so few people know this is going on. I talk to people that are very cultured and they're news junkies and they don't realize that there is this crisis facing people with albinism," said director David Darg, an Oscar nominee and Emmy winner. "Really, it's an untold genocide that's going on. The United Nations have said themselves that persons with albinism face extinction if nothing's done about it."

Chigwandali's escape from his hard life has been



This April 29, 2019 photo shows Malawian street musician Lazarus Chigwandali posing for a photograph during the 2019 Tribeca Film Festival in New York to promote his documentary short "Lazarus."

music. He started singing when he was 10 and finds joy and happiness in bringing his community together through his gift.

His smile brightens up the mood around him and gives the film an uplifting, optimistic feel. This week in New York, he gained a new fan in Oscar-winner Leonardo DiCaprio, playing a private show for the actor and his friends.

Madonna was so moved by Chigwandali's story that she signed on as an executive producer of the 30-min-

ute film.

"I'm so happy to have met Lazarus and to be a part of helping to raise awareness of the tragic reality that people with albinism have had to face for so long," said Madonna, who has adopted four children from Malawi and launched her Raising Malawi foundation in 2006.

On this day, Chigwandali is sporting large blue and pink glasses — in the vein of Elton John — an African-printed, two-piece navy ensemble and bright red

sneakers. He's holding his canjo — a banjo made with an oil can — which he'll casually break out into song with.

Speaking through an interpreter, he says he hopes to be a voice for people like him.

"People who he doesn't even know," interpreter Clem Kwizombe said, will be helped "once they see his story."

"He also confided in me last night," Kwizombe continued, "that was his very first time to see people loving

him like that in his entire life. ...That's why he just stood up and started dancing — because he was happy."

Chigwandali, who has music available for streaming on Spotify and Apple Music, plans to release an album later this year — in hopes of unifying the world through his songs, but also to help tell the story of people with albinism on a larger platform. He is working with music producer Johan Hugo, who has worked with Mumford & Sons and others.

But Chigwandali still fears for his life — and his children's lives. There is a Kickstarter campaign to raise money to build a house for Chigwandali and his family — designed so that no one can break in and ensure that his family is safe.

Even while they were filming "Lazarus" in Malawi, the director said abductions occurred, as did attempted abductions.

"That just really highlighted to us that this isn't a one-off thing. This is an ongoing crisis. We're in the midst of it right now in 2019," Darg said.

Darg explained that's why it's especially important to help Chigwandali become a household name.

"The real goal of the film, the album, the whole project collectively is to elevate Lazarus' prominence in Malawi as a superstar. □

Associated Press

Molly Dektar takes writerly look at allure of cults

By KIM CURTIS

Associated Press

"The Ash Family" (Simon & Schuster), by Molly Dektar

From the very first few pages of her debut novel about a cult, "The Ash Family," author Molly Dektar's substantial writing chops are abundantly clear.

"The house crouched in a whirl of leaves from the biggest hickory I'd ever seen. The wind spun the leaves in the air as thick and self-contained as the liquid in a snow globe."

The house and its surrounding farm in rural North Car-

olina become as central to the plot as the residents themselves.

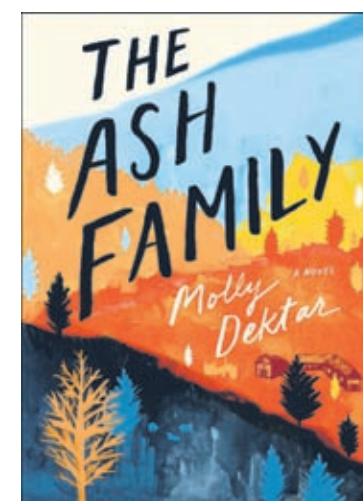
For reasons that aren't entirely clear, 19-year-old Berie allows herself to be taken to the farm when she gets cold feet about starting college. She ditches her scheduled flight to Virginia and, instead, heads to a bus station where she's picked up by an attractive young man and soon christened "Harmony." She's told she can stay three days or the rest of her life.

On her third day on the farm, she decides to stay or, rather, she doesn't de-

cide to leave and readers are plunged into Harmony's new life. She revels in the beauty of nature. She learns to start a fire, churn butter and cheese, slaughter animals. But, all the while, darker motivations within the cult leader and Bay, the man who picked up Harmony at the bus station, linger and grow.

Like other stories before it, "The Ash Family" tries to uncover the mindset of Harmony — what drew her to the obviously dysfunctional cult and what keeps her there. No new ground is tread here, so plot-driven

readers may find it disappointing. But what raises this novel up several notches is the glorious writing, like Dektar's description of an impending storm, "the clouds smeared into the ground as though by a giant's thumb." Or later, when Harmony describes her hopelessness: "All my thoughts had collapsed to a pinprick. I sat in the space between what happened and what I would say about it." All in all, it's a compelling read about what motivates us as humans and the lengths to which we'll go to satisfy our needs. □



This cover image released by Simon & Schuster shows "The Ash Family," a novel by Molly Dektar.

Associated Press

Some basic tips for betting on horse racing, Kentucky Derby

LOUISVILLE, Ky. (AP) — Picking a horse to win the Kentucky Derby is easy.

Placing a bet is as close as a cellphone, tablet, computer or even a smart TV with internet access. But for the novice or inexperienced bettor, making a wager that pays off with a profit can be a challenge: Beginners need to know how to place a bet, who to bet on and where to place the bet.

Off-track simulcasting in more than two dozen states offers a convenient alternative to going to the track. Of course, there's always the actual experience of walking up to the betting window at the track.

That's a good option if you can't get to Churchill Downs, where 150,000 spectators are expected for Saturday's 145th Derby and hoping to get some action on Game Winner, the 9-2 new morning line favorite after 4-1 previous favorite Omaha Beach was scratched Wednesday evening with a breathing problem.

Minimum bets vary from state to state, but here are some things to consider when placing a wager:

THE BASICS

The obvious wager is betting on a horse to win. Just pick one. But after that, it can get a little trickier.

Bets can be made on a horse to win, place (finish first or second) or show (finish first, second or third) — or all three with an across-the-board wager. An



Kentucky Derby hopeful War of Will is ridden during a workout at Churchill Downs Tuesday, April 30, 2019, in Louisville, Ky.

exacta involves correctly picking the first two horses in order, or in any order with a combination known as a box bet (1-2 or 2-1, for example).

Superfecta bets (picking the first four horses) are also available, as are exotic wagers such as Pick 3 and Pick 6 that requires choosing the winning horses in multiple races. A Pick 3 and a Pick 6 are the hardest to predict, leading to rollover jackpots that can be very lucrative. But they probably are best left to more seasoned bettors.

DO YOUR HOMEWORK

Determining who to bet on can start with a daily racing program that lists entrants for each race and information including odds, jockey, trainer, silks, saddle towel color and past performances. They can be purchased at the track, simulcast venue or a track's website.

It will initially seem like a lot of numbers and statistics, but tracks and web sites offer instructions on how to read and understand a program. One benefit to being at the track is seeing how the horse looks in the paddock or during the pre-race parade. Appearance and temperament are important, so keep an eye on horse's ears to see how engaged the horse is with the atmosphere.

And there's nothing wrong with playing a hunch, since after all, it's just a gamble.

ONLINE BETTING

After learning what to bet and who to bet on, the next step is placing the bet. Numerous websites such as TwinSpire.com — Churchill Downs' online service — Equibase.com and TVG.com offer betting at race-

tracks worldwide. Wagering is free, but it will require setting up a subscription and require banking information to place bets and deposit winnings. Those services even provide live streaming and replays. Various online sites offer betting tips along with news and updates. It's the most convenient way to bet on marquee races such as the Kentucky Derby, Preakness and Belmont Stakes as the Triple Crown season unfolds. It's also a good option for other marquee races during the year such

as the Travers Stakes and season-ending Breeders' Cup World Championships.

PARI-MUTUEL BETTING-SPORTS BETTING

When wagering, the longer the odds the bigger the payoff.

In horse racing, the odds are not finalized until the race begins. That is known as pari-mutuel betting. That's different than sports betting in which bettors get the odds that are available at the time they make their bet.

New Jersey tracks also offer exchange wagering for horse races, which differs from pari-mutuel betting. Exchange wagering matches and locks in the odds at the time a bet is placed and also allows betting during the race.

And while sports betting expanded in several states last year after the U.S. Supreme Court ruled that states could legalize sports gambling, it does not include horse racing. Even in most states that have legalized sports betting, placing a bet on horse racing is limited to the tracks as the sport examines how to compete and benefit from new legislation.

KNOW YOUR LIMIT

As rewarding as cashing in a winning bet can be, the desire to win more or recoup some inevitable losses can get intoxicating — and risky. When novice or inexperienced bettors make wagers on horse racing, it should be for entertainment purposes and not income. □



In this May 2, 2015, file photo, a man places a bet before the 141st running of the Kentucky Derby horse race at Churchill Downs, in Louisville, Ky.

Associated Press



In this May 14, 2018, file photo, men watch horse racing on an array of screens at Monmouth Park Racetrack in Oceanport, N.J.

Associated Press